The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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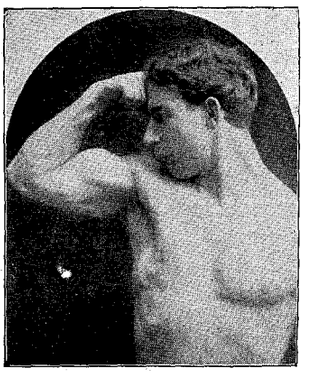

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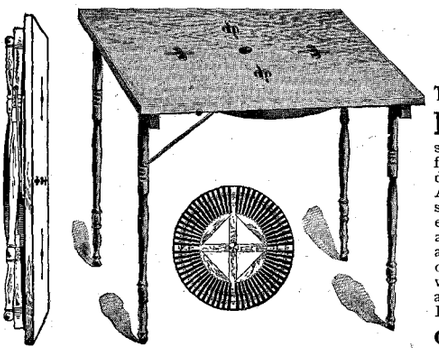

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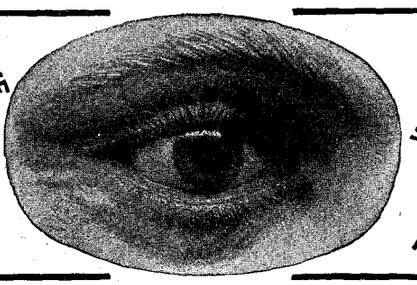

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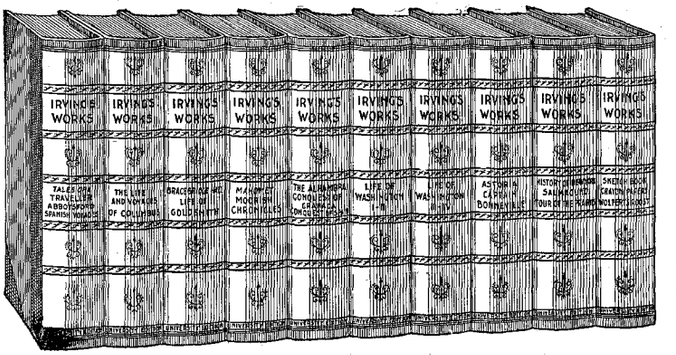

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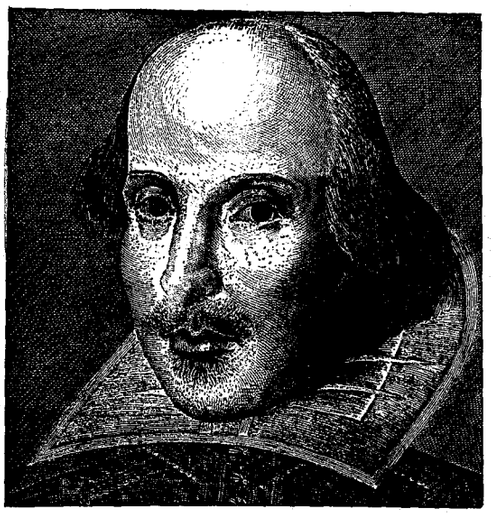

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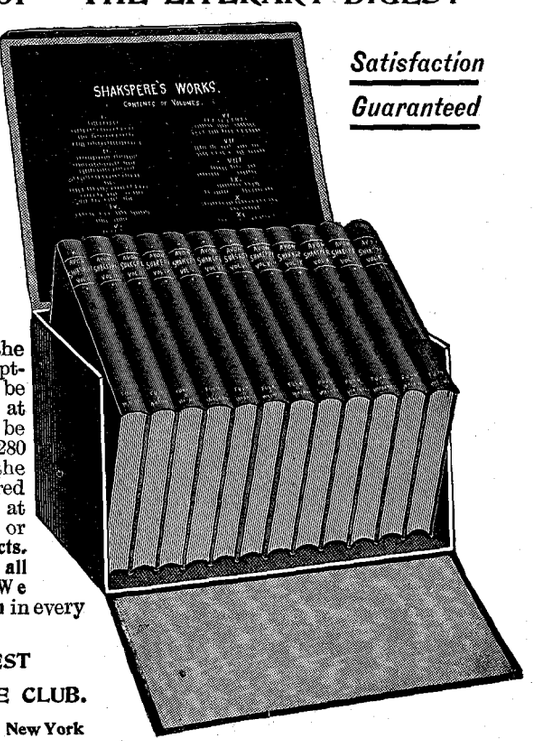

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

SETTLING THE GREAT COAL STRIKE.

THE report that the coal-operators will grant the miners an advance of ten per cent. in wages and will arbitrate any other grievances their men may present, is believed by the press to mark the beginning of the end of the great strike. The New York *Journal of Commerce* (Fin.), after interviewing several of the coal magnates in New York, reports that "there is virtually no objection to paying the increase in wages, which, it may be mentioned, will, in view of the higher prices of coal resulting from the strike, now most likely come from the pockets of consumers rather than from the coal companies, for it is not expected that prices to consumers will be promptly reduced to the selling basis which existed before the strike. An authority when questioned regarding the increased wages said to a representative of this journal: 'There is no objection to the payment of the higher wages; the increase should have been given some time ago, and undoubtedly would have been but for intervention of summer—a season when it is next to impossible to get directors of various companies together to take united action.'" The Scranton *Tribune* (Rep.) agrees that "there is one method, and one method only, whereby a general and sustained increase in the wages of the anthracite miners can be effected. This is in raising the price of coal to the consumer. The coal-carrying corporations, not the individual operators, regulate coal prices. They alone, as the case stands, can provide the means whereby increase in wages can be paid without bankruptcy to the smaller operators."

The sympathy of the great majority of the press is with the striking miners. *Harper's Weekly*, published by a house with which J. Pierpont Morgan is understood to be closely connected, declares that "there are beyond all question grievances upon which a large number of the miners are justified in making a firm stand against their principals. The story as it is told is not altogether pleasant reading, and it is inevitable that the facts presented must arouse in the breast of any compassionate man a deep feeling of sympathy, if not of actual resentment against those who are responsible, for those who suffer." Some papers go as far, in their attacks upon the coal and railroad combination controlling the Pennsylvania output, as to advocate remedies of a Socialistic nature. Thus the Chicago *Times-Herald*, (Rep.) says:

"The monopoly of nature's supplies could not receive a better illustration than it has in the coal-fields. Locked up in the State of Pennsylvania is practically all of nature's material of a certain sort which is immediately accessible to the people of this country, and it is material upon which millions depend for heat and cookery and the running of a multiplicity of great industries. Yet it is said that seventy-two per cent. of the producing territory is directly controlled by nine railroads, while the remaining per cent. is under their domination. And while the number of men which they employ in the mines is large, it is not one-hundredth part as large as that public which is obliged to seek one of the indispensable necessaries of life from those same corporations and wage-workers.

"It is clear, therefore, that there is a radical difference between this trade as it is managed and the ordinary private business, and that no parallelism can be instituted between them. Neither operator nor miner can say that the strike is his exclusive affair. It is the affair also of the people who must have the coal, and who have a right to protest against exorbitant prices. Nor do we have to appeal to modern sociological doctrines to justify this assertion. The monopoly by its tyranny over trade really offends against the fundamental principles of the common law.

"Whether we call it arbitration or not, some method, and that of a compulsory character, will have to be adopted to safeguard the interests of the people in such controversies. A tribunal should be established to pronounce upon them whose constitution would be a guaranty of fairness and whose decrees should be obligatory and final."

The San Francisco *Chronicle* (Rep.), too, declares that the fact that the railroad companies are the largest coal producers is "an abominable feature" of the situation, and adds: "It is wicked to enthrone any corporation with powers which will enable it to stop the wheels of industry in a dozen States. Under no circumstances should quasi-public corporations be permitted to be manufacturers or producers of commodities for sale. The two functions are legally incompatible, because governed by economic and statute laws based on principles widely differing. It is wretched government to permit creatures of the State to confuse the public while they oppress it by such an intermingling of diverse functions as exists in the coal-producing roads of Eastern States." The Chicago *Tribune*, another Republican paper, says: "If there is any method known to the law by which this vicious railway combine can be broken up or controlled, *The Tribune* would gladly see it put in operation. If,

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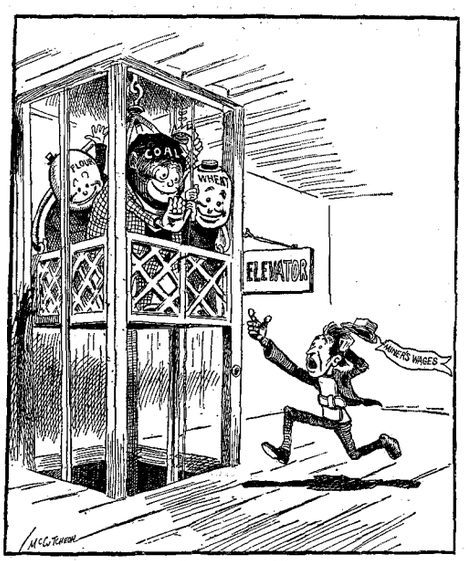
in the misfortunes of war, Mr. Bryan should be elected to the Presidency, *The Tribune* hopes he will devote his earliest attention to the coal combine and discover, if he can, some legal mode of disrupting that organization and of putting it under the harrow. It deserves no sympathy or compassion from anybody."

The Philadelphia *Times* (Ind.) says in a strong editorial:

"In effect, a few great corporations entirely control both the output and the transportation of anthracite. Acting in combination they can make the price what they please, and they equally can fix the cost and the rate of wages to be paid. The public can not and will not enter into a detailed discussion of complicated wage-scales and allowances or of questions of organization or agreement. We believe that the grievances of the miners are real and their demands just; we know that the coal companies have the power to satisfy these demands and end the strife, and we call upon the companies to do it.



"GOING UP!"
—*The Chicago Record.*

"Every consideration, industrial and financial, economic and social, demands this. It is idle to plead that the anthracite business will not stand an increase in the cost of mining. it can stand that better than indefinite suspension; and if the consumer, who pays the cost, can be taxed for inflated railway charges, he can much better be taxed to pay living wages to the men who mine the coal. The public temper toward combinations of capital at this time is not such as corporations can afford to be indifferent to, nor are the interests of investors to be trifled with.

"The time has come to end this strike, and to end it in the most direct, the most effective, the most generous way, by the free offer of all that has been reasonably asked to the miners who return to work. This will put the operators right before the men and before the world. There is no need of intermediaries. There need be no dispute about organization. The uncoerced action of the operators would disarm the most determined of their opponents and bring about a peace that would not require the support of bayonets."

John Mitchell, the president of the miners' union, is described as "a man whose genius for organization is certainly marvelous." The Philadelphia *Ledger* gives the following brief summary of his life:

"He is only thirty-one years of age, was born in Braidwood, Ill., and started to work in the coal-mines of that State when only thirteen years old. At an early age he showed his remarkable gift of leadership in organizing labor, social and literary clubs wherever he could get three or four men together. He became identified with the United Mine-Workers soon after it was started, and in 1895 was elected secretary-treasurer of the Illinois organization. In 1897 he was chairman of a legislative committee that secured important enactments for the protection of the miners in that State, and in the same year he became a member of the state executive board of the union. When the great strike was inaugurated in the bituminous coal-fields in 1897, he was appointed a national organizer by President Ratchford. Mitchell was elected national vice-president in 1898, and the following year, upon the retirement of Ratchford, succeeded to the presidency of the national body. He was reelected in January, 1900. He is fourth vice-president of the American Federation of Labor."

SENATOR HANNA ON TRUSTS.

A RIPPLE of comment has been set going by Senator Hanna's speech before the Commercial Club of Chicago, in which he professed to be ignorant of the existence of any trusts in this country. As reported by the Chicago papers and the Associated Press despatches he said: "I would like Mr. Bryan or any other Democrat to tell me what a trust is. I believe there is not a trust in the entire United States. There is a national law, and in every State there is a law against trusts—they can not exist; and every law against trusts, national or state, has been the product of Republican lawmakers, and the credit is due to the Republican Party." These remarks were telegraphed all over the country, and immediately became a topic for considerable remark, some of it severe and more of it humorous; and when the Republican manager reached New York a few days later he told the reporters that his speech had been "misquoted and garbled." The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* (Ind. Dem.) declares, however, that "there is no way out by that means. The words were deliberately uttered, appeared in the Chicago papers without variation of that fateful sentence, and were sent out by the Associated Press exactly as spoken." The Washington *Post* (Ind.) thinks that the word "trust" has become so vague in its application that Senator Hanna may be correct. "The question is," it says, "how large a proportion of all the trade must a corporation control before it becomes a 'trust'? It is a question that Bryan, or any other man, would have difficulty in answering, and Hanna undoubtedly had a well-defined purpose when he thus threw down the gantlet. Bryan had an undisputed right to ignore the challenge and treat Hanna's question as a 'humorous' one, but unless he takes some method of letting the public know just what he means when he denounces 'trusts,' the verdict is apt to be that the Senator from Ohio has the best of the argument."

The Detroit *Free Press* (Ind. Dem.) thinks that the Senator's words can be justified only by admitting that they were a quibble, and the Detroit *News* (Ind.) says that "Mr. Hanna is simply making a play on words when he declares that there are no trusts in the country." The trust question, adds *The News*, "is a vital problem for which the people are struggling for a solution," and Mr. Hanna, when asked what his party is doing with it, "flippantly replies with a pun." The Atlanta *Constitution* (Dem.) thinks that Mr. Hanna was "rattled." "In one of his Ohio speeches," it says, "he is quoted as having said: 'I say there are no trusts. If there are, prove it.' And then a few minutes afterward, 'the trusts have the best men of the country at their head. I believe in their organization. The formation of trusts is a step forward. The combination of corporations is simply the evolution of business.' And in almost the same breath: 'I am not defending the trusts.' All of which, if it means anything at all, means that in the excitement of campaigning Senator Hanna loses his head and adds largely to the stock of things which had best be left unsaid. He is evidently very badly rattled over the Republican outlook."

The Philadelphia *Ledger* (Ind. Rep.) calls the Senator's attention to the fact "that there has been issued from the Government Printing Office at Washington a list of 267 works on the subject of trusts in this country, which have been for a year or more on the shelves of the Congressional Library, and that one of them is a disquisition on trusts by Senator Hanna himself, in which he not only acknowledges the existence of these combinations of capital for the restriction of trade, but defends, justifies, and exalts them." Even if he forgets all this, it adds, the Re-

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publican campaign manager ought to have read the party platform and the letters of acceptance written by the candidates for President and Vice-President. The Philadelphia *North American* (Rep.) says that "the complacent Senator's assertion that there are no trusts parallels General Otis's declaration that there is no war in the Philippines," and the Washington *Times* (Dem.) fears that "the thing most needed by Senator Marcus A. Hanna is a commission *de lunatico inquirendo*." The Indianapolis *Sentinel* (Dem.) suggests that when the Senator disclaimed a "belief" in trusts that "he was merely trying to remove them by Christian science," and the Brooklyn *Eagle* (Ind.) tries to satisfy Senator Hanna's request for a definition of a trust by quoting from a speech delivered before the English Parliament in 1640 by Sir John Culpepper, who said:

"It is a nest of wasps, or swarm of vermin which have overcrept the land. Like the frogs of Egypt, they have gotten possession of our dwellings, and we have scarcely a room free from them. They sup in our cup; they dip in our dish; they sit by our fire; we find them in the dye-vat and wash-bowl. They have marked and scarred us from head to foot. They will not vote us a pin; we may not buy our own clothes without their brokerage; they are leeches that have sucked the commonwealth so hard that it has almost become hectical. And some of them are ashamed of their right names; they shelter themselves under the name of corporation; they make by-laws which serve their turns to squeeze us and fill their purses. Unface them and they will prove as bad cards as any in the pack."

"If Senator Hanna desires further information concerning the meaning of the word trust," adds *The Eagle*, "it might be to his advantage to call one of the Rockefellers up on the telephone." The day after Mr. Hanna's speech in Chicago Mr. Bryan came back at him in a speech in Leavenworth, Kansas, by asking: "Can you expect the Republican Party to destroy the trusts when the leader of the Republican Party says 'there are no trusts'?"

The New York *Sun*, which is perhaps the foremost defender of industrial combinations to be found among the American press, expresses warm admiration for Senator Hanna and his campaign speeches, and quotes from Bulletin No. 29 of the Department of Labor to show that "all the unkind things said about these combinations of interests and capital known as trusts are not true." It says:

"A reading of this document and an examination of the figures and tables published therein show not only that the trusts have not thrown large numbers of skilled and unskilled laborers out of employment, but that wherever several companies or several individual interests have been combined to form a trust the combination has employed many more of both kind of laborers than were employed before consolidation took place. Further than that, the document shows, and it gives the figures to prove it, that the increased number of laborers, both skilled and unskilled, have received higher wages than were ever paid by the individual companies which united to form the trusts."

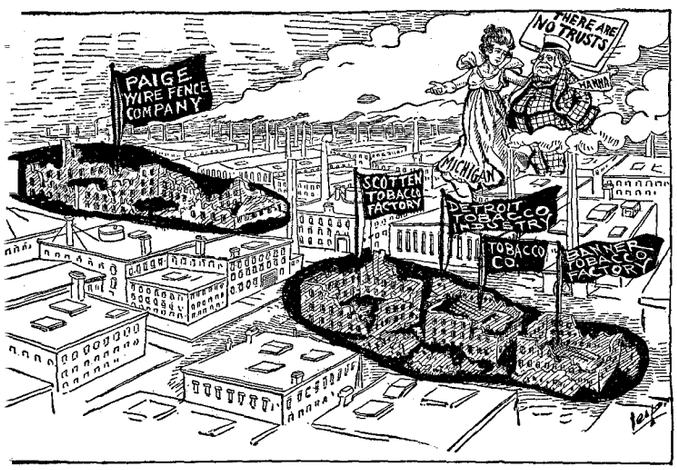
MORE SERIOUS OUTLOOK FOR CHINA.

THE fear is widely expressed that Germany will not be satisfied with the official Chinese proclamation that Prince Tuan and other high officials will be held to account for instigating the Boxer outrages. Germany has modified somewhat her demand that China must surrender for punishment any persons the powers may name, but many believe that the Kaiser will still insist upon some similar conditions that China will not grant, and that war and dismemberment of the Chinese empire may follow.

The Philadelphia *Ledger's* correspondent in Washington says: "There is no question in the minds of well-informed diplomats here that Germany will precipitate dismemberment if it can be accomplished. All the developments in her policy have indicated such an end. The Emperor William desires to wreak a terrible revenge upon the officials whom he believes responsible for Baron von Ketteler's death, and seeks Chinese territory as balm to the wounded national feeling." The Washington correspondent of the New York *Times* also reports that in Washington war between Germany and China is believed to be "inevitable, and it may come at any time." *The Times* remarks in comment that Germany herself, if placed in a situation similar to the one China now occupies, would resist to the last a proposition that she surrender any high officials her enemies might name to be punished at their pleasure. It continues:

"Of course such a demand can not be granted by anything that meant thereafter to keep up before its own people the pretense of being a government. When such a demand is made the preliminary of entering into diplomatic negotiations, it is certain that these negotiations will not be begun. There is no reason for any sane and sober person to think that China would grant such unprecedented demands. There is therefore reason to think that they were made by Germany in the expectation that, even if they were acceded to by the powers, they would be refused by China. In other words, Germany does not wish for a peaceful settlement of the claims of the Western world against China. And that must mean that she sees more advantage to herself from a settlement not peaceful."

A good word for the German Government, however, is spoken by the Chicago *Record*, which observes that "in considering any proposition which Germany may make it is to be remembered,



THEN WHOSE FOOTPRINTS ARE THESE?
—*The Detroit News.*

WELL, WHAT IS THE CAMPAIGN ALL ABOUT?
—*The Detroit News.*

CARTOON VIEWS OF SENATOR HANNA'S DECLARATION.

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of course, that the German nation has peculiarly strong reasons for demanding stern measures of redress. Its ambassador was killed and in his person Germany was affronted. Considering that every civilized power deems itself entitled to extra-territorial jurisdiction in all legal cases affecting its own citizens in China, it is but natural that Germany should propose to have a voice in the trial of those responsible for the killing of its minister."

In spite of Russia's recent expressions of peace and good will, strong suspicions are heard that the Czar, as well as the Kaiser,

"OUR PLAIN DUTY" IN CHINA.
—*The Washington Times.*

intends to come out of the imbroglio with more territory than before. It is reported from St. Petersburg that Russia has definitely taken over all those regions of Manchuria occupied by Muscovite soldiers, and has explained that the annexation is in punishment for the Boxer attack on Blagovestchensk. John F. Bass, the New York *Herald's* correspondent in China, reports that Russia "is holding all the forts and strategical points from Taku to Peking," and that "no one here believes that Russia will ever move out except under overwhelming pressure from other powers." Germany's demand on China, he adds, "means continued war and perhaps the complete disruption of the Chinese Government." The Baltimore *Herald* says: "An impression has prevailed in Europe that a strong league has been formed to keep England from sharing in Chinese spoils. France, Russia, and Germany have generally been credited as parties, but it looks now as if Japan had thrown in her interests also. If this be true, it will place England hopelessly in a minority. While England might cope with one or two of these powers, to fight them all is beyond her might." "The one thing which at present seems plain," observes the San Francisco *Chronicle*, "is that there is no unity or sign of unity among the powers, and that the United States will either have to treat independently with China, which is by no means desirable at this juncture, or run great risk of becoming inextricably snarled up in an interminable diplomatic tangle."

The intended withdrawal of the greater part of our land force in China continues to be the subject of considerable comment. It "affords abundant evidence," remarks the Boston *Transcript*, "of our Government's determination not to involve itself in any question not common to all the powers," and the Chicago *Record* believes that since we have declined to join Germany in her demand on China, "it is only logical that the Government, having taken this step, should withdraw its troops. To keep a detachment of American soldiers under the command of Count von Waldersee to carry out German plans contrary to American wishes is out of the question."

Other papers criticize the withdrawal in severe terms. The Washington *Times* says: "Every other consideration must be sacrificed to that of scuttling. The Chinese Christians in Peking are to be abandoned to butchery, the last hope of honorable settlement is to be surrendered. Everything is to be forgotten but the Philippine insurrection, which Otis utterly crushed and ended months ago, and the elections in November. It is a consummation to fill the patriotic heart with disgust and contempt." The Providence *Journal* says, in a similar strain: "The one unpleasant conclusion to be reached at the present time is simply this—that a great chance lay before us in China, and that it has been neglected by an administration too timid to do the right thing at the right time. The United States could have taken the lead in settling the Chinese problem. Now it sees Russia and Germany having things their own way, and it can do nothing but talk about 'firmness' with no assurance whatever that its influence will be effective."

THE MOST DENSELY POPULATED BLOCK IN THE WORLD.

THE "East Side" of New York has generally been considered the most congested center of population on the face of the earth. The new census, however, reveals that another spot farther uptown is properly entitled to this unenviable reputation. Says the New York *Journal:*

"The most populous block now in New York runs from Tenth to Eleventh Avenue, and from West Sixty-first to West Sixty-second Street.

"By actual count 6,888 people live in that one city block.

"This is more than the entire population of many good-sized towns. Many Western 'cities' would be glad to claim that number.

"To pack away this teeming population on one block the 'double-decker' tenements are built so close together as to look like one gigantic house 600 feet long and 200 feet wide.

"There are twenty-six houses on the north side of Sixty-first Street and the south side of Sixty-second Street, and seven double houses fronting on the avenues on the east and west ends of the block.

"Each house contains twenty-two families."

It would seem almost a physical impossibility for nearly 7,000 beings to find homes in such small compass, but *The Journal* remarks that "economy of space and economy of air are problems as easily learned here as the roads to disease." On each side of the hall on every floor are two suites of generally three rooms apiece, and it is this arrangement which has given to the tenements the title of "double-deckers." Four families are allotted to each floor, and two families live in the basement, each house being five stories high. Only one family in the block, says *The Journal*, has an entire "double-decker," and in some of the tenements there are as many as forty-five children—"poor little wretches, with matted hair and black faces, so uniformly black that it was hard to distinguish which ones were colored." The writer continues:

"The back yards are hotbeds of disease and filth. Yet here are hung the washed clothes to dry for the whole 6,888 inhabitants of the block.

"The back windows look out upon this back yard, with its forest of clothes-line poles and heaps of rubbish.

"Into it descend the straight iron ladders known as fire-escapes. Their landings serve as storerooms for food and as cradles for babies.

"In their lessons of economy 'double-deckers' learn not to keep provisions over except potatoes and stale bread, and perhaps an

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onion or two. A couple of children are just as easily wedged in among them and just as comfortable.

"All the old rags are treasured for something to lie on—pillows they call them.

"In the glare of the sunlight, the air filled with flies and stench, the vista is hideous.

"The narrow windows that mark the front of the house, looking down upon dirty children and barrels of garbage, are by contrast wellsprings of fresh air. . . . . .

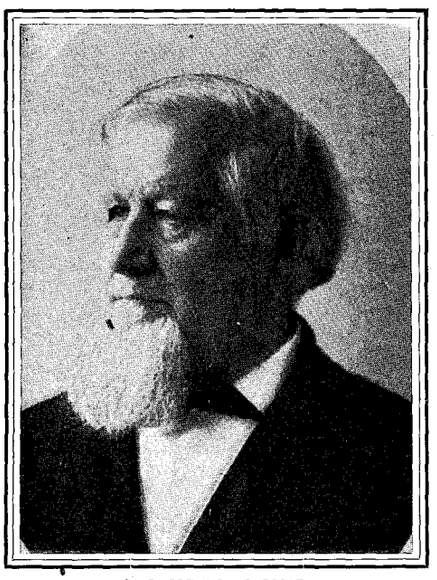
"Only forty apartments are supplied with hot water.

"There are only two bathrooms on both sides of the block."

The Journal points out that there is a terrible moral in such conditions even for those who often fancy themselves most secure from the influence of the slums. It quotes Dickens's words to the effect that the poor man has his revenge on the rich, for "even the winds are his messengers," and every drop of his corrupted blood "propagates infection and contagion somewhere." "There is not a cubic inch of any pestilential gas on which he lives," wrote Dickens, "not one obscenity or degradation about him, not an ignorance nor a wickedness, nor a brutality of his committing, but shall work its retribution through every order of society up to the proudest of the proud and to the highest of the high."

DEATH OF GEN. JOHN M. PALMER.

IN commenting on the life of Gen. John M. Palmer, who died last week in Springfield, Ill., at the age of eighty-three, the newspapers pay tribute to his sincerity and independence, which led him to change his party allegiance from time to time as new questions came up, and in spite of which he was frequently honored with high political office. "The republic," says the Philadelphia *Record* (Ind. Dem.), "stands at this juncture in sore need of just such strong, independent, and unpurchasable citizenship as that which characterized the whole life of General Palmer." The Baltimore *Sun* (Ind.) sketches the changes in General Palmer's political career as follows:



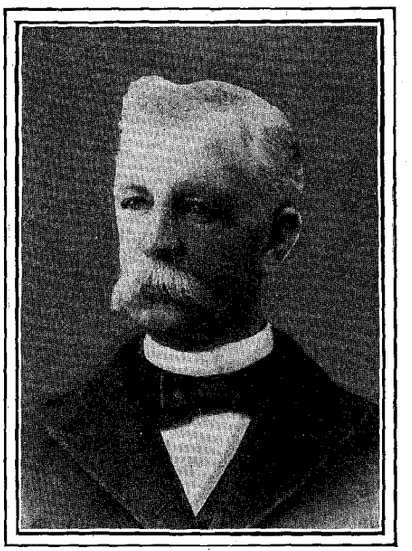
GEN. JOHN M. PALMER.

"In his convictions of what was right he was uncompromising, and he never hesitated to turn against his party when his conscience required him to do so. He parted with his warm friend, Stephen A. Douglas, on the slavery question and became a Republican. He was a Lincoln elector in 1860, a distinguished general in the Union army in the Civil War, and after the war he was elected governor of Illinois by the Republican Party. In 1872, in common with many of the best and ablest men of the Republican Party, he left that party. He was honored by the Democratic Party with nominations for the governorship and for other offices, and in 1890 was sent to the United States Senate. In 1896 he was nominated at Indianapolis for President on the Gold Democratic ticket, composed of a Union and a Confederate general, the latter being General Buckner. General Palmer refused to support Mr. Bryan that year on the free-silver policy, the paramount issue in that campaign. General Palmer was a man of force and of rugged honesty. He was born in Kentucky about the beginning of James Monroe's term of office as President of the United States and was old enough to vote at the election of William Henry Harrison."

The Brooklyn *Times* notes that with the death of Mr. Hobart, Mr. Sewell, and General Palmer, each of the three leading Presidential tickets of 1896 has lost one of its members.

A PROHIBITION SHERIFF IN MAINE.

THE election of Samuel F. Pearson (Proh.), a Baptist clergyman, for sheriff of Cumberland County, Me., has been made the subject of considerable remark. Cumberland is the most populous county in the State, and contains the city of Portland, where, under the former sheriff, the prohibitory law is said to have received a rather "liberal" interpretation. *Zion's Herald* (Boston) learns, on what it considers good authority, that there are "223 rumshops in Portland," and 1,200 in the State. The Portland correspondent of *The New Voice* (Proh.) says:



REV. SAMUEL F. PEARSON.

"For years, the Republican Party has habitually sold out to the joint-keepers. This year the people rose in revolt, refusing to accept any more promises of the corrupt politicians, and cast their votes with the Prohibitionists. There never has been such an upheaval in Portland politics. The Republican leaders are gnashing their teeth because they can't sell their souls again this year. The sheriff in Maine has more to do with law enforcement than any other one man, save the district attorneys. The joint-keepers are already talking about shutting up shop; a Prohibition sheriff has been elected."

The Boston *Herald* (Ind.) remarks that the effort to close the Portland saloons "will be viewed with some curiosity," but that "there seems to be no doubt that it will be earnestly made, as this sheriff is a strenuous advocate of enforcement, and his election is really a direction to him on the part of the people to engage relentlessly in the work." Some think that the rigorous enforcement of the prohibitory law will bring about a reaction that will sweep it off the statute book, and the Boston *Transcript* (Rep.) observes that "it would be a curious outcome if the election of a Prohibition sheriff in Cumberland County has opened the way to a repeal of the prohibitory law." But the Portland (Me.) *Press* (Rep.) thinks that "it is not likely that if the prohibitory amendment were resubmitted now or in the near future the result would be different from what it was when first submitted." The "growing impression that some other policy than the present one would be preferable," it says, "has sprung largely from the belief that the prohibitory law could not be enforced, and was therefore a constant object-lesson of the non-efficacy of law that was very demoralizing. The corruption which is known to exist in connection with this law has also tended to discredit it. Yet, in spite of the growth of anti-Prohi-

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bition sentiment in the cities, we still believe that, taking the State over, a majority, and a pretty strong majority, still believe in Prohibition and would vote against taking the amendment out of the constitution."

GERMAN-AMERICAN VIEWS OF IMPERIALISM AND OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

THE German-American papers contain a good many sarcastic allusions to the political opportunism which causes the "—— Dutchman" to be referred to as "our esteemed fellow citizen of German extraction"—until the elections are over. Not a few declare openly that it is best for the German-American to parade his "hyphenated" name as much as Anglo-Saxon, in order to combat imperialism as it is supposed to be represented by the present administration. Yet the German-American press protest very strongly against the insinuation that their judgment is biased by the press of Germany. The German-American press has, indeed, the reputation of being very independent, and there is hardly a German-American paper that can not boast of an appreciable foreign circulation on that account. The Philadelphia *Democrat*, replying to an attack upon the German-Americans in the Philadelphia *Evening Telegraph*, says:

"It should be brought to the notice of our readers that *The Evening Telegraph* insinuates that the German-American papers reproduce German attacks upon our President and Government. The proof is, of course, entirely lacking. The German-American papers never took their cue from abroad. They have always loyally defended the interests of the United States, and the accusation that any one in Germany could influence the German-American vote should be denied with all possible insistence. If the writer of the article has any proofs, why does he not publish them? Nothing but anxiety for the German vote could dictate such calumnies. The German-American voter will give his vote where it will, in his opinion, serve best the interests of the country."

The few "court journals," as the uncompromising supporters of President McKinley are called by the others, are aware of the influence which the supposition that the President and Mr. Hay are anxious to assist England to destroy Germany may have upon many voters. The Chicago Illinois *Staats-Zeitung*, the most prominent of the McKinley organs, continually endeavors to show that the President is really much more friendly to Germany than to England. But most of the German-American papers call up the Samoan affair and many minor incidents as opposed to that theory. The Chicago *Freie Presse* says:

"One of the latest and to the *Hof Journale* most welcome incidents is the acceptance of Waldersee as commander-in-chief. Well, it was a long time coming. John B. Jackson reported from Berlin that the Czar agreed to the appointment of Waldersee. McKinley remained silent. Jackson reported the acceptance of Italy and Austria. Not a word from McKinley. Then England also agreed, and at last McKinley saw fit to place our contingent under the command of the chosen leader. Instead of the proof of friendship for Germany we have here again a proof that McKinley is only the humble servant of England, and will do nothing without orders from England. The polite interchange of messages between our William and William of Hohenzollern goes for nothing. Both men are experts in that sort of thing, and McKinley wants to use it for the campaign. We all know that."

The *Morgen-Journal* (New York) warns specially against militarism. It says, in the main:

The official McKinley organ here has the assurance to argue that our army will only be used to serve national interests. In Germany the army is the nation in arms, that is why the soldier is respected. Such an army can be used *only* to execute national ideas. But *here?* The will of one man, or of a small group, at best of a few party leaders, is sufficient to set the army in motion. Moreover, ours is a hireling army, how can it serve national interests? Is the subjection of ten million Malays who will have nothing to do with us of *national* importance? A lot of carpet-baggers may profit there, contractors will fare well, and the corporations will profit by the exploitation of cheap labor. We, the people, will have to pay for it all, now and in future. Our "insignificant" army has grown from 25,000 to 100,000 within two years. What guaranty have we that it will not be quadrupled again in any other two years, in order to serve national interests. And then—wo to our national and individual liberties, when the soldiery have begun to play an important part among us!

The Cincinnati *Volksblatt* declares that "imperialism" must not blind the German-American voter to the danger of 16 to 1, which is the greater danger of the two. The New Orleans *Deutsche Zeitung*, an Independent-Democratic paper, admits that Bryan gives no greater guaranty that justice will be done to the Filipinos than McKinley. The Davenport *Demokrat* has no faith in the ability of our imperialists. "*McKinley*, Hay, and the rest of them will only make the United States the tail end of the British boa constrictor," says the paper. The Cleveland *Wächter und Anzeiger* thinks that the American voter must show first of all "that the American people are more honorable than their Administration," by electing a man who will do justice to the peoples freed from Spanish rule. As regards the Chinese question the German-American papers are extremely reticent. The general impression seems to be that the matter has not developed sufficiently to determine upon a course. It is hoped, however, that no partitioning will take place. The *Westliche Post* (St. Louis) says:

"As in the war itself, our Administration plays a leading part in the diplomatic settlement of the Chinese question. It must be admitted that as yet no mistakes have been made, hence our attitude has often influenced the other powers. . . . Broadly speaking, our Administration should neither busy itself with plans to overthrow the dynasty in China, nor assist in partitioning, nor form a protectorate of the powers. Our interests are mainly commercial, and these interests should be fully guaranteed."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

KANSAS AND THE PROHIBITORY LAW.

REV. C. M. SHELDON'S recent statements before the World's Woman Christian Temperance Union of Edinburgh, Scotland, to the effect that the Kansas prohibitory law was as much enforced as any other law, and that the selling of liquor was considered a crime, have been questioned, but the Topeka correspondent of the New York *Tribune* has looked into the subject, and finds that, in the main, Mr. Sheldon is correct. The correspondent shows, however, that the mere fact that Kansas, during the year 1899, imported 7,812 barrels of beer does not mean that this was the only beer received during that time. The law does not bar out liquor purchased across the border and brought to Kansas; what it does prohibit is the unlawful sale of liquor, and since 1881 (the year the law was put into effect) it has been steadily enforced. Consequently, says the correspondent, the large number of drunkards have decreased, because the business is too risky when the law has to be dodged at every corner. Loafers have found it to their advantage not to loaf, and the illicit "joints" which the "regular" drinkers frequented have disappeared. The correspondent goes on:

"In Topeka, a city of about 35,000 inhabitants, the law is better enforced now than at any time in the last four or five years. There are no open saloons in Topeka, and there has never been since the enactment of the prohibitory law. At times, when the law has been poorly enforced, there are a good many joints (every place where liquor is illegally sold is called a joint) start up. Some have only bottles and glasses; some have tin dippers or tea cups; some have a good assortment of utensils and drinks; some have planks for counters, and some have bars—but all are

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concealed from the public view. Public opinion soon demands that the officers enforce the law. The keepers are arrested, and most of them are fined and some of them sent to jail. The liquor, if any is found, is poured into the street, and all fixtures and apparatus destroyed. This course soon drives the joints out of existence. To-day there are few places of this kind in Topeka, less by a considerable number than when Mr. Sheldon was speaking in Edinburgh. The people of Topeka frown upon a lax enforcement of the law, and refuse support to any city government that grows weary in well-doing. Consequently near the close of every administration the law is better enforced. While Topeka adopts the close-them-up system of dealing with joints, every other city of the first class in the State takes an entirely different method, viz., they arrest and fine, once a month regularly. The joint-keeper walks up every month, pays his fine and returns to his illegitimate business, which to him now seems perfectly legitimate because he has assurance of no more interference for thirty days.

The fines collected monthly aggregate in a year to from $600 to $1,000 for each joint, and amount to about the same thing as a license. The place of business is not in reality a saloon, because it has no license—only a fine. There is about as much difference as between tweedledum and tweedledee. About one half the cities of the second class adopt the close-up plan and the other half the pull-and-fine plan. The third class cities scattered over the State are nearly all managed on the close-up plan. The drug-stores are the only places where liquor can be legally obtained, and then only for medicinal, scientific, and mechanical purposes on sworn statement of the purchaser. There is much talk about the drug-stores being run as joints, but there is little truth in it. While the farming community in some parts of the State is made up of a foreign population accustomed to the use of beer, it is a fact easy to verify that the greater part of the beer consumed in Kansas is drunk in the cities."

RADICAL PAPERS ON THE COAL STRIKE.

THE coal strike in Pennsylvania presents to the radical papers what they regard as an unusually impressive illustration of the evils produced under existing social conditions, and elicits from them a great deal of characteristic comment. "The cause of the strike," says the Cleveland *Citizen* (Socialist), "can be summed up in one word—Robbery. The poor miners and their families are in the clutches of a gang of as heartless industrial cannibals and plutocratic pirates as ever enslaved a people and sucked their life's blood." "If the statement published by the miners is true," adds *The Labor Leader*, a trade-union paper published at Lancaster, Pa., "then the condition of the black slave in the South before the emancipation was one of comfortable ease and affluence compared with that of the white slave of the coal monopolists to-day." With this statement *The Irish World* (New York) concurs, declaring that the negro slave had at least food and clothing and the assurance that in his old age he would be taken care of. On the other hand, "the slave of the mine has no such assurance. Broken in health by the poisonous air he is compelled to breathe, he is flung aside like any other piece of old machinery." "Did you ever hear of the coal operators being shot down or imprisoned?" asks the Haverhill *Social Democrat*. "Did you ever hear of them being even fined for breaking the laws on the statute books concerning every evil of which the miners complain? No! Because the coal-operators and railroad magnates are the government of the State of Pennsylvania, and it is not likely the State will prosecute itself."

The Philadelphia *American*, the leading organ of the Populists, believes that a compulsory law of arbitration would be sufficient successfully to adjust such industrial disputes as this. The Chicago *Public*, however, a single-tax paper, declares that the only real solution of the miners' troubles lies in public ownership. "Let the word go forth," it says, "that highways and coal deposits ought not, shall not, and do not of right belong to any man or set of men; but of right they are and of necessity must be made common property." *Free Society* (San Francisco), which advocates Anarchist-Communism and a "general strike" of all workers, asserts that "the coal-miners are the worst paid and most cruelly treated of all laborers. Their contest is against the foulest form of commercial greed; and their success is to be earnestly hoped for."

The Socialist papers see in the Pennsylvania labor war an opportunity to make votes for Debs. "Voting is easier than striking," remarks *The Appeal to Reason* (Girard, Kansas). "Think of the effect of 100,000 Socialist votes in the anthracite region!" exclaims the New York *People*, and it continues: "It would mean public ownership of the mines and railroads within three years—and that would mean short hours, regular work, greater security for life, infinitely greater personal liberty, and at least fifty per cent. better pay as soon as the new system was put into operation." *Public Ownership* (Erie, Pa.) exhorts the wage-workers to unite in the political field as they unite in striking on the industrial field. "Take the reins of government," it says, "and direct its course to the Cooperative Commonwealth, where all may labor who will, and none shall eat who will not, where wealth will belong to its makers, and drones and industrial despots will be known no more!"

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

GROVER CLEVELAND is giving the Izaak Walton ticket a cordial support.—*The Memphis Commercial-Appeal.*

THE tour of the Prohibition candidate in the West is with a view of making it less wild and more Woolley.—*The Nashville Banner.*

PERHAPS the Chinese Empress-Dowager can be brought back to Peking by a tempting display of the latest fashions.—*The Baltimore Herald.*

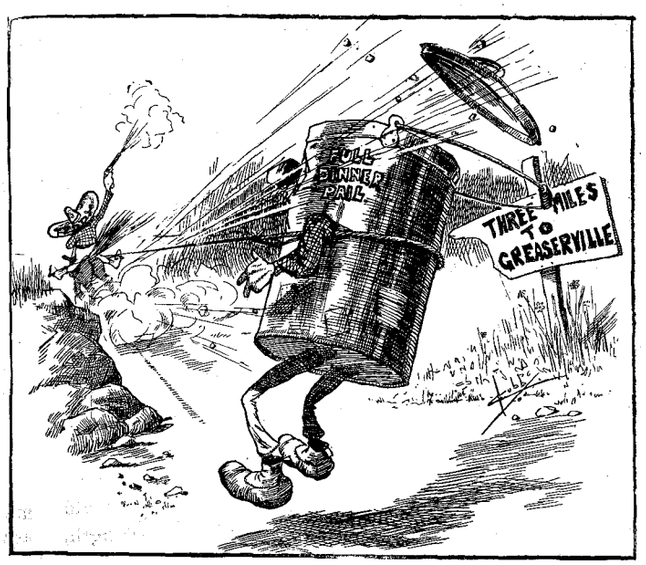
"WHERE are the trusts?" said Mr. Hanna, "I can't see them." Still there are those who make light of that hallowed sentiment, "Love is blind."—*The Detroit Tribune.*

THERE is pathos in the thought of how inconsequential some of these impassioned campaign arguments will seem two months from now.—*The Washington Star.*

KANSAS has one potato patch forty miles long, with a prospective crop of 4,000 car-loads. The man with the hoe can stand it if the poets can.—*The St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY NOTE.—Paul Kruger, formerly of the Transvaal Republic, will spend the winter in Holland. The date of his return is indefinite.—*The Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

EVERY once in a while a crazy man tries to break into the White House past the guards at the door, and occasionally one tries to break in past the voters of the country.—*The Chicago Record.*



"FULL DINNER PAIL": "Hold up, Teddy, you're working me too hard."
—*The Rochester Herald.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

A WOMAN'S OPINION OF WHITMAN.

IT has often been noted that Walt Whitman stands perhaps alone among poets as one who never wrote a line dealing with romantic love. He has written of the love of comrades, and of sex attraction on the physical side; and in "Gods" and the "Song of Myself" he has written two of the noblest lines in literature dealing with what may be called supermundane love, or divine love beyond the present life. Because of this neglect of the theme which has universally inspired poets, and because of the repulsion which his higher phallicism has caused among so many of his readers, it is interesting to learn the opinion which a woman of strong intellect and yet feminine charm held concerning him. In "Anne Gilchrist and Walt Whitman," a brochure lately written by Elizabeth Porter Gould, we have an account of the singular influence which Whitman's poems and conception of the universe exerted over an Englishwoman, Mrs. Anne Gilchrist, the daughter-in-law of Madox Brown, and the friend of the Carlyles, the Rossettis, and Tennyson. Her husband had died early, leaving her with four little children and an unfinished "Life of Blake." The children she supported by her heroic efforts until their adulthood. The "Life of Blake" she finished with her own able pen.

It was in 1869—shortly after her bereavement—that William Michael Rossetti's "Selections from Walt Whitman" was put into her hands. Previously she had "heard nothing but ill words of the poems," and opened the book with feelings "partly of indifference, partly of antagonism." A fortnight later she wrote Rossetti: "I can read no other book. It holds me entirely spellbound, and I go through it again and again with deepening delight and wonder." Thereupon Rossetti offered her his complete copy of the "Leaves of Grass," saying that any one like her, who so valued that "glorious man Whitman, one day to be known as one of the greatest sons of Earth," ought to read the whole of his poems, which to him were "like a portentous roll of chorus, such as 'the Lord God Omnipotent Reigneth' in Handel." In response to a reference of Rossetti's to the passages dealing with sex, Mrs. Gilchrist wrote that she was certain that Whitman's "great and divinely beautiful nature could not infuse any poison into the wine he had poured out for them." "What I like," she added, "I grasp firmly and silently; what I do not like, I prefer to let go silently too." After a little further reading she wrote:

"I had not dreamed that words could cease to be words and become electric streams like these. I do assure you that, strong as I am, I feel sometimes as if I had not bodily strength to read many of these poems. In some of them there is such a weight of emotion, such a tension of the heart, that mine refuses to beat under it—stands quite still—and I am obliged to lay the book down for a while; . . . then there is such calm wisdom and strength of thought, such a cheerful breadth of sunshine, that the soul bathes in them, renewed and strengthened. Living impulses flow out of these that make me exult in life, and yet look longingly toward the 'superb vistas of Death!'"

She cried out with the poet himself at the close of his book:

> Camarado, this is no book,
> Who touches this, touches a man!

Her enthusiasm charmed Rossetti. "It is," he wrote to her, "the earnest of the boundless enthusiasm Walt Whitman will one day excite, and continue exciting for ages." To Mrs. Gilchrist it was as tho she had been regenerated—"truly a new birth to her soul." Again she wrote to Rossetti: "What more can you ask of the words of a man's mouth than that they should absorb into you as food and air, to appear again in your strength, gait, face—that they should be fiber and filter to your blood, joy and gladness to your whole nature?"

Miss Gould gives us these further details of Mrs. Gilchrist's feelings at this time:

"She was persuaded that the one great source of this 'kindling, vitalizing power—*the* great source—was the grasp laid upon the present, the fearless and comprehensive dealing with reality.' This 'athlete full of rich words, full of joy, takes you by the hand and turns your face straightforward.' She used to think it was great 'to disregard happiness, to press on to a high goal careless, disdainful of it.' Now she fully saw there was nothing so great as 'to be capable of happiness'; 'to pluck it out each moment, and whatever happens'; to find that one can ride 'as gay and buoyant on the angry, menacing, tumultuous waves of life as on those that glide and glitter under a clear sky'; and that it is not 'defeat and wretchedness which come out of the storms of adversity, but strength and calmness.' . . . She found a wonderful, inspiring comfort in and love for 'sane and sacred death,' who, in the language of this poet, came not as a terror, but as the 'holiest minister of heaven':

> Praise be the fathomless universe,
> For life and joy, and for objects and knowledge curious,
> And for love, sweet love—but praise! praise! praise!
> For the sure-entwining arms of cool-enfolding death.

Whitman's poem "To a Prostitute" she found "divinely tender and sympathetic." The poet, too, in his "Song of Myself," made her realize that "it is as great to be a woman as to be a man," "the glory of womanhood and motherhood." With regard to her attitude to Whitman's sex poems in general, Miss Gould writes:

"Her only doubt was expressed in the thought that perhaps Whitman had forgotten, or through some theory in his head had overridden, the truth that 'our instincts are beautiful facts of nature as well as our bodies,' and that we have a 'strong instinct of silence about some things.' When, however, she had read the 'beautiful, despised' poems of 'Children of Adam' by the 'light that glows out of the rest of the volume, by the light of a clear, strong faith in God, of an unfathomably deep and tender love for humanity, light shed out of a soul that is possessed of itself,' she wrote Rossetti he argued rightly her confidence would not be betrayed by any of the poems in the book. None of them, she said, troubled her even for a moment, because she saw at a glance that it was not, as men had supposed, the 'heights brought down to the depths, but the depths lifted up level with the sunlit heights, that they might become clear and sunlit too.' In this poet, she saw always for woman 'a veil woven out of her own soul—never touched upon even with a rough hand'; and for man a 'daring, fearless pride in himself, not a mock-modesty woven out of delusions.' 'Do they not see,' she continues, 'that this fearless pride, this complete acceptance of themselves, is needful for her pride, her justification? What! is it all so ignoble, so base, that it will not bear the honest light of speech from lips gifted with the divine power to use words? Then what hateful, bitter humiliation for her to have to give herself up to the *reality!* It must surely be man's fault, not God's, that she has to say to herself, 'Motherhood is beautiful, fatherhood is beautiful; but the dawn of fatherhood and motherhood is not beautiful.' . . . It is true that instinct of silence I spoke of is a beautiful, imperishable part of nature too. But it is not beautiful when it means an ignominious shame brooding darkly. It was needed that this silence, this evil spell, should for once be broken, and the daylight let in, that the dark cloud lying under might be scattered to the winds. It was needed that one who could here indicate for us 'the path between reality and the soul' should speak. . . . Now silence may brood again; but lovingly, happily, as protecting what is beautiful, not as hiding what is unbeautiful; consciously enfolding a sweet and sacred mystery—august even as the mystery of death, the dawn as the setting: kindred grandeurs which to eyes that are opened shed a hallowing beauty on all that surrounds and preludes them. He who can look with fearlessness at the beauty of Death—

> O vast and well-veiled Death!
> Oh the beautiful touch of Death, soothing and benumbing,

may well dare to teach us to look with fearless, untroubled eyes at the perfect beauty of love, in all its appointed realities!"

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IBSEN AND MAETERLINCK AS SUCCESSORS OF THE GREEK TRAGEDIANS.

HENRIK IBSEN has so often been called a naturalist that it is a little startling to find him classified by a critic of recognized standing as an idealist and even as a fatalist and successor of Æschylus. In a recent article, Prof. Charles Harold Herford, of the University of Wales, and editor of the "Eversley Shakespeare," says that triumph, in the world's sense, is always, with Ibsen, "attended by something sinister and disastrous, some fulfilment of a tragic omen, or some omen to be tragically fulfilled." He continues (in *Literature*, London):

"It is clear that this recurring burden of the Ibsenian drama:—this *ewige Gesang* [eternal song] continually resounding through the troubled air—is due less to any definite teaching of experience than to a fundamental psychical bent, an inner core of asceticism and idealism, which has shaped all his thinking: and of which all that presents itself to him as experience has taken the hue. Ibsen has dealt so largely with ugly and sordid materials, with the sensual dross and soulless *débris* of humanity, that such terms as idealism and asceticism, applied to him, will seem to many readers, even now, strangely out of place. But he is not the first in whom an iron grip upon actuality has gone along with a no less inflexible disparagement of it. It is the paradox of Ibsen's nature that, while impelled by his own fanatical criticism into a fierce estrangement from the phenomenal world, he has yet been held to it by bonds which grew only more rigid and despotic with years; so that while his criticism of society has remained as implacable as ever, his solutions and remedies have grown vaguer and more hesitating, and the famous 'Third Kingdom' itself, in which the author of 'Cæsar and Galilean' saw the future crown and culmination of Paganism and Christianity, has become a forlorn and discredited myth. . .

"It is easy to understand the mood in which a mind with such preoccupations as these approached the problems of tragedy. The conflict of the individual with circumstance, with society, which is in some sense the standing topic of tragedy, was not, for him, a *motif* which as a dramatic artist he might take or leave, but the form which any dramatic imitation of life by him must inevitably assume. Personality, full of heroic possibilities, is perpetually threatened by the strangling grip of circumstance; this traditional antithesis of the tragic stage is for Ibsen the pervading problem of life. No doubt in the later plays this problem is no longer apprehended with the same simplicity as before. Personality is less boldly distinguished from its environment; a man can not free himself, like Brand, by sheer force of will from the obsession of circumstance; the past claims its part in him, and its ghosts mingle with the pageantry of his brain. But the more composite men and women of the later plays are not less clearly individualized, their mental profiles are more intricate and subtle, but not less precise; they compel us to face the same problems of psychology and ethics, tho the solution is no longer written in flaming letters on the page. Ibsen may be called a poet of revolution, if we will; but it is this revolutionary poet, beyond all others, who has taught us in art the power of the past, and its weight. If any man may claim to have touched to modern issues the essential tragedy of 'Œdipus the King,' it is the author of 'Ghosts.' And he may be called, if we will, a poet of 'Naturalism'; but it is this 'Naturalistic' poet who has done more than any other to rescue the European theater from the worst vices of what goes by that name, to redeem it from the mental and moral insignificance which is often, in ethics as well as in art, a graver crime than indecorum, to restore under forms controlled by the severest realism the inner play of thought, the jostle of ideas, the mortal struggle of wills affirming opposed ideals of life and of good. Ibsen has been called a 'Symbolist'; and so he is in the sense that he habitually means more than he says; but he differs from the school of M. Maeterlinck in using as 'symbol' not the most fantastic and visionary, but the most human and vernacular, element of his thought. M. Maeterlinck brings Poetry visibly and fully arrayed, upon the stage, and we can not be too grateful; but from amid those sordid domesticities to which Ibsen often apparently confines us, the interpreting mind has glimpses into the eternal workshop of Nature, and becomes aware of the Time-Spirit toiling at the whirring loom of Time, and of the immeasurable woof and warp of which the most trivial human story is the meeting-point."

The Spectator (London), in reviewing a recent book by Mr. W. L. Courtney entitled "The Idea of Tragedy in Ancient and Modern Drama," makes a somewhat similar comparison between the old and new dramatists:

"Æschylus sees human beings driven into dreadful straits by the compulsion of a force acting from without—fate, the will of the gods—yet a force which is to a certain degree set in motion by human character or act. Where there is drama there must be action, and not merely drift; the human soul on the Greek stage is pushed fighting, beaten yet unsubdued, into the pit that fate has digged for it. The struggle between man and an external fate is the cardinal motive of Greek tragedy. With Shakespeare we come into a world set free of this constraint, yet here as everywhere there is the eternal antinomy of freedom and necessity. Each man is the slave of his own character; character is destiny. Still, there is a limit, and one which Mr. Courtney neglects to point out, in Shakespeare's conception of doom. Othello comes to ruin not solely because of his inherent weakness: the tragedy arises from a collision of characters: Iago and Othello meet, and the result is like a chemical combination, each develops in the other what but for the union would never have come into being. In the modern drama of Ibsen and Maeterlinck heredity has come to assume proportions almost as menacing as those of the Greek Nemesis. Action is in it the inevitable outcome of individual temperament; it is not the chance meeting of wills that brings the crisis—we carry it in ourselves. 'None but yourself shall you meet on the highway of Fate. If Judas go forth to-night, it is toward Judas his steps will tend.' Maeterlinck's fine saying applies to drama as Maeterlinck and Ibsen understand it, but not to the drama of Shakespeare, where a larger scope is allotted to chance or Providence. However, we have not space to discuss Mr. Courtney's views, but must be content to commend them. His remark that 'Shakespeare adapted the Gothic spirit to dramatic literature' is excellent, and his comparison of Ibsen to Euripides suggests a good deal, tho the contemporary criticism, as represented by Aristophanes in the *Frogs*, recalls rather what the average man says of Maeterlinck than of the Scandinavian."

THREE PHASES OF AMERICAN LITERATURE.

JOSEPH DANA MILLER gives us in a single brief article (*The Criterion*) glimpses of a half-dozen or so of the newer writers of the South—Henry Stilwell Edwards, whose "Sons and Fathers" won the Chicago *Record's* $10,000 prize; Miss Grace King, of New Orleans, whose Creole stories "have given her a place beside Cable"; Mrs. Kate Chopin, of St. Louis, author of "Bayou Folks"; John Fox, Jr., who has lived with the mountaineers of Tennessee, whom he describes; Miss Mary Johnson, who comes from Virginia; Mrs. Ruth McEnery Stuart, Miss Molly Elliott Seawell, and Miss Ellen Glasgow, all from the Sunny South—six women and two men! By way of introduction, Mr. Miller contrasts literary conditions under the régime of slavery and since that régime was destroyed. "Literature," he writes, "could not, or at least did not, flourish where institutions tended toward the separation of classes and the establishment of caste. The broad, humanizing powers of observation that are so necessary to the creation of larger literary masterpieces and the rational development of all art, were lacking; and the fiction of the South was, for the most part, sterile and commonplace. . . . With the lifting of the shadow of slavery passed the influence that had so long stifled the voice of imagination and blurred the eye of vision to all the material destined to enrich the literature and art of the great South." He concludes his article with the following generalizations:

"In a newly settled country such as ours there are three well-defined phases in the development of literature: a first period, which must be imitative of that nationality from which the national letters first drew the breath of life; a second period, in

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which the literary spirit, striving for broader utterance and struggling to free itself from the trammels of older models, will endeavor to give artistic form to what is local, and permanence to what is purely evanescent. It is this phase through which we are now passing; it began with 'The Scarlet Letter,' and extends to such localizations as those of Mary Wilkins, Octave Thanet, and Hamlin Garland (in his one really notable book, 'A Little Norsk'), and to many of the writers whose work we have been considering. It is folly to pretend that we have yet passed to the third and final stage, in which art, however finished and perfect of its kind, becomes literature. Not a single American novel yet written will live beyond a century as a vital and enduring piece of work. With poetry it is different. Poetry, unlike the novel, lives in an atmosphere of its own, and borrows less from surrounding shades and colors; its existence is independent of much upon which the novel must rely for its creation. And the really great work of fiction will come only with the welding together in one great unity of concept of those purely sectional ideals which make our country's life to-day. Only out of some great national homogeneity can proceed that which is permanent and enduring in literature."

IS GENIUS A NERVOUS DISEASE?

UNDETERRED by the storm of protest which greeted Nordau's "Degeneracy" from both sides of the Atlantic, an eminent London surgeon, Mr. Treves, has been expressing himself in a sweeping way to the effect that genius is "an untabulated nervous disease." The few persons of genius whom he has known personally are, he says, exceedingly "impossible" persons; and in the medical profession especially he thinks genius is out of place.

The London *Spectator* takes up the cudgels with the surgeon, and insists that to repudiate genius is to repudiate one of the highest attributes of life. How about Darwin, Tennyson, Matthew Arnold, Walter Bagehot, it asks; were they "impossible"? It continues:

"Darwin was the closest of observers, Lord Tennyson alone among poets made a fortune, Matthew Arnold was one of the ablest inspectors of schools, and Walter Bagehot successfully conducted three businesses at the same time. It is a pity, if truth is worth searching for at all, for a man so eminent as Mr. Treves to lend a great reputation to the diffusion of an utterly false idea. We entirely admit that a great many men who think themselves men of genius are deluded by a certain excitability of the nervous system, and that many literary men of genius have displayed a tendency to nervous disease or even insanity; but there is surely, for all that, such a thing as genius—that is, a variety of mental power which in those who possess it adds to their capacities some force which seems to other men, and indeed is, unaccountable, a 'zigzag lightning of the brain which meaner men have not.' To deny that, or to class that force among nervous diseases, seems to us to deny the plainest facts of history, and to throw a new and needless obstacle in the way of the study of mental phenomena. Where is the evidence of neurosis, or even of the tendency to mania which Dryden saw in all 'great wits,' in Shakespeare or Goethe, in Napoleon or von Moltke, or Mendelssohn or Rembrandt? Saner men never lived."

The position taken by Mr. Treves, *The Spectator* thinks, is one that leads to the destruction of literature and art, tends to dissolve the social fabric, debases political ideals, and lowers the whole conception of humanity. Here is its argument:

"To deny the existence of genius is to increase that commonness of life, that pulverizing sense of equality among men which, because it is based on a falsity, is the first curse of all democracy, whether it be political or confined to the region of thought. There is no equality in men's powers any more than in their height, and to say that industry and observation will make their possessor the equal of the man to whom genius has been given—we neither know, nor for the purpose of this argument do we care, what genius is—is just as unwise as to believe that a man can by taking thought add a cubit to his stature. Its general acceptance would destroy that capacity for admiration which is one great source of social coherence, and by reducing all men to a level make leadership indefinitely more difficult. Even in politics the belief in average men tends to lower the ideal, and with it the community, while in literature and art it is fatally destructive. If, in addition, we are to believe that men of genius are not only useless, but the victims of an 'untabulated nervous disease,' we shall lower the whole conception of humanity, and in the end approach closely to the level of the Chinese, who choose their mandarins on the very principles which Mr. Treves thinks will, if followed, produce good doctors."

MR. HOWELLS'S REMINISCENCES OF LOWELL.

IN the summer of 1865 Mr. W. D. Howells, who was at that time American consul in Venice, returned to America on leave, and went to see Lowell, at Elmwood, carrying with him the gift of an inkpot in the shape of a lobster. Apart from the personality of Mr. Howells himself, the two were drawn together through a common interest—Italy—and soon they were close friends. At this time Lowell was nearing fifty, and he was reluctant, Mr. Howells says, to let his youth go from him, constantly referring to it. Mr. Howells became assistant editor of *The Atlantic Monthly* and moved to Cambridge in 1867. He met Mr. Lowell frequently, but at first the poet failed to call upon Mr. Howells and to welcome him into New England literary circles. They met one night at a Dante reading conducted by Mr. Norton. Writes Mr. Howells:

"He [Mr. Lowell] took no special notice of me till I happened to say something that offered him a chance to give me a little humorous snub. I was speaking of a paper in the magazine on the Claudian Emissary, and I demanded (no doubt a little too airily) something like 'Who in the world ever heard of the Claudian Emissary?' '*You are in Cambridge*, Mr. Howells,' Lowell answered, and laughed at my confusion. Having put me down, he seemed to soften toward me, and at parting he said, with a light of half-mocking tenderness in his beautiful eyes, 'Good-night, fellow townsman.' 'I hardly knew we were fellow townsmen,' I returned. He liked that, apparently, and said he had been meaning to call upon me, and that he was coming very soon."

After this, Mr. Howells became regularly installed as a friend the Lowell family. In the famous study, with its bookish atmosphere, or on long tramps, he had an intimate view of the poet, and his retrospect published in *Scribner's* (September), especially the anecdotal side of the article, throws light upon many of Lowell's characteristics. Of Mr. Lowell politically, Mr. Howells writes:

"I had in fact come into his life when it had spent its impulse toward positive reform, and I was to be witness of its increasing tendency toward the negative sort. He was quite past the storm and stress of his anti-slavery age; with the close of the war which had broken for him all his ideals of inviolable peace, he had reached the age of misgiving. . . . He preached a quite Socratic reverence for law, as law, and I remember that once when I had got back from Canada in the usual disgust for the American custom-house, and spoke lightly of smuggling as not an evil in itself, and perhaps even a right under our vexatious tariff, he would not have it, but held that the illegality of the act made it a moral offense. . . . I recall but one allusion to the days when he was fighting the anti-slavery battle along the whole line, and this was with a humorous relish of his Irish servant's disgust in having to wait upon a negro whom he had asked to his table. . . . . .

"He had a great tenderness for the broken and ruined South, whose sins he felt that he had had his share in visiting upon her, and he was willing to do what he could to ease her sorrows in the case of any particular Southerner. He could not help looking askance upon the dramatic shows of retribution which some of the Northern politicians were working, but with all his misgivings he continued to act with the Republican Party until after the election of Hayes; he was away from the country during the Garfield campaign. He was in fact one of the Massachusetts

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electors chosen by the Republican majority in 1876, and in that most painful hour when there was question of the policy and justice of counting Hayes in for the Presidency, it was suggested by some of Lowell's friends that he should use the original right of the electors under the Constitution, and vote for Tilden, whom one vote would have chosen President over Hayes. After he had cast his vote for Hayes, he quietly referred to the matter one day, in the moment of lighting his pipe, with perhaps the faintest trace of indignation in his tone. He said that whatever the first intent of the Constitution was, usage had made the Presidential electors strictly the instruments of the party which chose them, and that for him to have voted for Tilden when he had been chosen to vote for Hayes would have been an act of bad faith."

Mr. Howells was the first to broach to the President that he believed Lowell would accept a diplomatic position. The mission to Austria was offered, but was refused. Mr. Howells writes:

"A day or two later he came to my house to say that he could not accept the Austrian mission, and to ask me to tell the President so for him and make his acknowledgments, which he would also write himself. He remained talking a little while of other things, and when he rose to go he said, with a sigh of vague reluctance, 'I *should* like to see a play of Calderon,' as if it had nothing to do with any wish of his that could still be fulfilled. 'Upon this hint I acted,' and in due time it was found in Washington that the gentleman who had been offered the Spanish mission would as lief go to Austria, and Lowell was sent to Madrid."

Lowell in his study is a pleasing picture:

"He was often out of his chair to get a book from the shelves that lined the walls, either for a passage which he wished to read or for some disputed point which he wished to settle. If I had caused the dispute, he enjoyed putting me in the wrong; if he could not, he sometimes whimsically persisted in his error, in defiance of all authority; but mostly he had such reverence for the truth that he would not question it even in jest.

"If I dropped in upon him in the afternoon, I was apt to find him reading the old French poets, or the plays of Calderon or the 'Divina Commedia,' which he magnanimously supposed me much better acquainted with than I was because I knew some passages of it by heart. One day I came in quoting—

> Io son, cantava, io son, dolce Sirena,
> Che i marinai in mezzo al mar dismago.

He stared at me in a rapture with the matchless music, and then uttered his adoration and despair in one word. 'Damn!' he said, and no more. I believe he instantly proposed a walk that day, as if his study-walls, with all their vistas into the great literatures, cramped his soul liberated to a sense of ineffable beauty by the verse of the *sommo poeta*. But commonly he preferred to have me sit down with him there among the mute witnesses of the larger part of his life. As I have suggested in my own case, it did not matter much whether you brought anything to the feast or not. If he liked you, he liked being with you, not for what he got, but for what he gave. He was fond of one man whom I recall as the most silent man I ever met. I never heard him say anything, not even a dull thing, but Lowell delighted in him, and would have you believe that he was full of quaint humor."

Mr. Lowell was very sensitive to criticism, but among his friends he looked for sincerity, altho at times it did make him wince. He was eager to profit by what others said, and in the case of Mr. Howells, in return, he was open and frank in his opinions. But withal, notwithstanding advancing age, and the press of domestic cares, he was cheerful and boyish, as Mr. Howells illustrates in the following:

"He liked to tease and he liked to mock, especially his juniors, if any touch of affectation or any little exuberance of manner gave him the chance; when he once came to fetch me, and the young mistress of the house entered with a certain excessive elasticity, he sprang from his seat, and minced toward her, with a burlesque of her buoyant carriage—which made her laugh."

Lowell was a frequent contributor to *The Atlantic*, and altho, in literary ways, he was not a business man, he never hesitated to say when he thought he was underpaid. Mr. Howells writes:

"This happened with a long poem in *The Atlantic*, which I had urged the counting-room authorities to deal handsomely with him for. I did not know how many hundreds they gave him, and when I met him I ventured to express the hope that the publishers had done their part. He held up four fingers, '*Quattro*,' he said, in Italian, and then added, with a disappointment which he tried to smile away, 'I thought they might have made it *cinque*.'

"Between me and me I thought *quattro* very well, but probably Lowell had in mind some end which *cinque* would have fitted better. It was pretty sure to be an unselfish end, a pleasure to some one dear to him, a gift that he had wished to make. Long afterward when I had been the means of getting him *cinque* for a poem one tenth the length, he spoke of the payment to me. 'It came very handily; I had been wanting to give —— a watch.'"

In regard to their ideas of fiction, Mr. Lowell and Mr. Howells were diametrically opposed. Mr. Howells continues:

"He was probably most at odds with me in regard to my theories of fiction, tho he persisted in declaring his pleasure in my own fiction. He was in fact, by nature and tradition, thoroughly romantic, and he could not or would not suffer realism in any but a friend. He stedfastly refused even to read the Russian masters, to his immense loss, as I tried to persuade him; and even among the modern Spaniards, for whom he might have had a sort of personal kindness from his love of Cervantes, he chose one for his praise the least worthy of it, and bore me down with his heavier metal in argument when I opposed to Alarcon's factitiousness the delightful genuineness of Valdés. Ibsen, with all the Norwegians, he put far from him; he would no more know them than the Russians; the French naturalists he abhorred. I thought him all wrong, but you do not try improving your elders when they have come to threescore and ten years, and I would rather have had his affection unbroken by our difference."

After their return from abroad, the two were not as intimate, altho they still retained their sincere friendship. Mr. Howells was but forty, Mr. Lowell old and just failing in health. His simplicity had suffered somewhat by his London experiences. Mr. Howells says:

"He could never have been anything but American, if he had tried, and he certainly never tried; but he certainly did not return to the outward simplicities of his life as I first knew it. There was no more round-hat-and-sack-coat business for him; he wore a frock and a high hat, and whatever else was rather like London than Cambridge; I do not know but drab gaiters sometimes added to the effect of a gentleman of the old school which he now produced upon the witness. Some fastidiousnesses showed themselves in him, which were not so surprising. He complained of the American lower-class manner; the conductor and cabman would be kind to you, but they would not be respectful, and he could not see the fun of this in the old way. Early in our acquaintance he rather stupefied me by saying, 'I like you because you don't put your hands on me,' and I heard of his consenting to some sort of reception in those last years, 'Yes, if they won't shake hands.'"

NOTES.

A COLLECTION of Ruskin letters has been presented to the manuscript department of the British Museum by Mr. Cavendish Bentinck. The gift includes all autograph letters written by Mr. Ruskin to Mr. Rawdon Brown, of Venice, with many of Mr. Brown's replies.

AT the recent Paris Psychological Congress, according to the "Nouvelles Scientifiques" department of *La Nature*, a musical prodigy three years of age was exhibited. The boy's mother, says the writer, "is a good musician. About six months ago she had just executed a difficult piece of classical music on the piano, when, having left the instrument, she heard the piece repeated behind her back. It was the child, who had performed this feat at the first attempt. Since that time, without a teacher, the little prodigy has displayed eager persistence and made astonishing progress. This three-year-old baby is named Pepito Rodrigues Ariola."

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

AMERICAN MECHANICAL SUPREMACY AND AMERICAN CHARACTER.

THE state of mind into which the strides taken of late by our export trade in engineering and mechanical appliances have thrown our British cousins has been noted and illustrated more than once in these columns. *The Engineer* (London) now sets out (August 31) to explain the facts in a way calculated to soothe the irritated British manufacturers. It concludes that the differences between American and English methods are due to environment, and that for them to copy us would not only lead to no good results, but would even be impossible. The more progressive methods and more modern equipment of American works are thus accounted for:

"Our old works, our largest and most famous, are not built as they now exist from set intention. They were started in days when the huge proportions which mechanical engineering would attain were unforeseen, and when money was far less plentiful than it is now. They are antiquated in arrangement and design, but not more so than hundreds of American works will be fifty years hence if mechanical engineering spreads with such totally unforeseen rapidity in the next half-century as it has done in that just coming to a close. And what will the owners do then—the third generation of owners—if they suddenly awake to the fact that a new competitor with radical notions has arisen to teach them the way they should go? Will they utterly cast out the ways of their fathers and grandfathers—will they be able to stamp out tradition and overcome hereditary ideas and spring up fresh and green from their ashes? No; and a thousand times no. They will do what England is doing. They will make the best use of the means they have at hand. They will modify and renew just as our manufacturers do now, but with caution and discretion, not with the immoderate haste which marks some of their movements to-day. That restless striving for the foremost place will be a nightmare of the past."

This article is noticed by *The American Machinist* (September 20) in a leading editorial entitled, "Cultivating the Scrap-heap." According to this writer, *The Engineer's* article illustrates a fatal misconception of the conditions under which American methods have been developed. He says:

"*The Engineer* seems to think that the typical American works have been planned complete upon a fresh sheet of paper, and that they have not had to face the problem of making 'the best use of the means they have at hand.' As an illustration of the real facts, we may mention the metallurgical and allied industries, in which some of the greatest American triumphs have been secured, as one in which this subject has been just as acute here as in England, and the Atbara bridge incident was the natural outgrowth of the different decisions arrived at in the two countries. In England the decision was to keep the old machinery turning over as long as it could be made to do its work. With us the decision was to make scrap of it as soon as a newer machine could be found which would produce sufficient increase of product to pay the required interest on the investment. And be it observed, the fundamental conditions were more favorable to frequent renewals in England than here, for until recently rates of interest have been uniformly lower there than here, while the cost of machinery there has called for a smaller outlay for a given equipment. In our rolling-mills and steel-works it is, we believe, a conclusion to which engineers have arrived that provision must be made for renewing them *in toto* every ten years, and, in point of fact, we not long ago saw a rolling-mill (by which term we now mean a set of rolls, with its attached engine and appurtenances) which was in process of demolition and on its way to the cupola. That mill, we were told, had been built but five years before, to be, as it then was, a strictly modern and up-to-date mill; but the progress of improvement had made its demolition a necessary measure of economy.

"This incident illustrates the American view of such matters. Not all American works have been so managed, but those that have not have been crowded to the wall by those that have. And it may be predicted with entire confidence that the process that has been at work between individual establishments will also operate between nations. It is a matter of easy proof—in fact, it is almost self-evident—that the American practise leads to the best use of capital, as well as of labor, and that it must survive.

"The English idea seems to be to regard a machine, once bought, as a permanent investment, or at any rate as one which is to be extinguished only by the operation of a suitable depreciation charge applied year by year. We may arrive at this point of view some time, but if we do it will be because of a radical change in the national character, and not because we have a plant of old machinery to deal with and must 'make the best use of the means at hand.'"

THE CANALS OF MARS AGAIN.

THE so-called canals on the planet Mars will probably never cease to be objects of speculation, not only with astronomers but with the general public. Scores of people who never saw the planet through a telescope powerful enough to reveal the markings have ideas about them and theories of their causes and constitution. One of the first questions to be settled in the premises is: Do we see the surface of Mars at all? M. Delauney, writing in *La Nature* (September 1), thinks that we do not, and puts forth what he calls an explanation of the "canals," which is really only an explanation of their changing character. This is due, he believes, to the fact that we do not see the canals themselves, but only the lines of drifting fog and cloud that overhang them. The canals, of course, must still be underneath, but M. Delauney is discreetly silent regarding their origin and nature. The writer notes at the outset that if the atmospheric conditions were the same on the earth and Mars, the observed phenomena on the two planets ought to be similar. As this is not the case, he concludes that the difference must be sought in a difference of atmospheric conditions, and he believes that the Martian phenomena may be explained on the hypothesis that its atmosphere is much rarer than ours. This, however, is hardly a hypothesis, as all observers agree upon it, and the smaller mass of the planet, with the accompanying decrease in the intensity of gravity, would make it probable in any event. Says M. Delauney:

"What would take place on our own globe if our atmosphere should come to have a smaller density? . . . . Meteorological phenomena would then have much slighter importance; there would be fewer clouds; rain would be less frequent. On the contrary, evaporation from seas and watercourses would become more considerable, and both would be covered with a thick layer of fog. This would tend to dissipate in the rare surrounding atmosphere, as it was renewed by the evaporation, and a state of equilibrium would be brought about, so that there would be a persistent fog above seas and rivers, covering all parts of them and rising to a great height.

"This state of things is exactly what we ought to see on the planet Mars. The various markings that we see on the surface have eminently the unstable and changing character that should belong to cloudy masses, sensitive to exterior influences. We see neither seas nor real canals on the planet, but only the moist cloaks that cover them and exaggerate their dimensions.

"We can thus explain why the markings are the clearer when the sun's action is more powerful, for the resulting increase of heat must augment the evaporation.

"As to the doubling of the lines, this is most naturally explained. When the sun shines on the fog above a canal, it will heat it and cause it to rise; but, in this displacement, the different parts will not have the necessary speeds of rotation that the fog may turn all in one mass with the planetary surface; the highest layers will not revolve quickly enough, and the fog, while rising, will also spread out horizontally in a direction contrary to that of the planet's rotation. And it may happen that the wide curtain thus formed will break, the upper part becom-

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ing detached along its entire length. We should thus have two parallel lines of fog.

"If the line thus detached has only slight thickness, it will shortly be dissipated in the surrounding atmosphere and will perhaps appear later. If it is thicker, the twin lines may last a long time.

"If this is a correct explanation, it should result that if the canal beneath a double line extends along a meridian, the two lines should not be parallel and should appear farther apart as they approach the equator. Schiaparelli found that this was the case with the great canal . . . observed by him in 1888.

"On the other hand, it has been observed that some canals are smaller over the central meridian than they are thirty degrees away. The explanation of this phenomenon is natural if we suppose that the height of the fog over these canals exceeds its breadth. The most curious peculiarities of the surface of Mars thus find an easy explanation.

"In fine, to solve the enigma of the Martian canals it is only necessary to admit that the planet has a very rare atmosphere, which facilitates evaporation and causes persistent fogs. These fog-masses, subject to changes and drifting apart, reproduce approximately the forms of the seas and channels that give rise to them. As to the real features of the surface of Mars, they probably are as unchangeable as those of our own globe."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE NERNST ELECTRIC LAMP IN PRACTISE.

AT the time of Professor Nernst's invention of his new form of electric incandescent lamp, we devoted some space to a description of it. This light was then little more than a laboratory experiment, but now the lamps are made and sold in Berlin by a company that exhibits about 300 of them at Paris. Our readers will remember that the chief characteristic of the Nernst lamp is the employment of a filament made from an oxid of the rare earths, as, for instance, magnesia, which is a non-conductor of electricity at the ordinary temperature. The efficiency of a source of light depends greatly upon the temperature to which the particles of the flame or incandescent body are raised. The limit of temperature in ordinary incandescent lamps has practically been reached, and further advances in electric illumination are mainly to be expected from the use as incandescent bodies, instead of carbon, of materials which are non-conductors of electricity at the ordinary temperatures. Such bodies have long been used in gas-lighting, in the well-known forms of incandescent mantle, and this suggested to Professor Nernst their employment in electric lighting. The difficulty, as stated above, is that they are usually non-conductors of electricity; but Professor Nernst has discovered that certain combinations would conduct at high temperatures. It is necessary, therefore, in his lamp, to heat the filament before it will glow, which is one of the disadvantages of the system; but the filament, being non-combustible, does not need to be enclosed in a vacuum-bulb, which is of course vastly in its favor. The preliminary heating may be done with a match or an alcohol torch, or may be accomplished automatically by the electric current; but the self-lighting lamps are much more expensive than the others. Says the writer of a description in *The Electrical World and Engineer* (September 1):

"All the mechanism of an ordinary lamp is in the socket, which is slightly larger than the old Edison socket. The lamp bulbs are of about the size of a small 16 candle-power bulb, and give a candle-power of 25. In the photograph . . . the lamp with the open bulb is started by the flame of a match. A Nernst filament, it may be said again, is ordinarily renewable after 300 hours. . . . . .

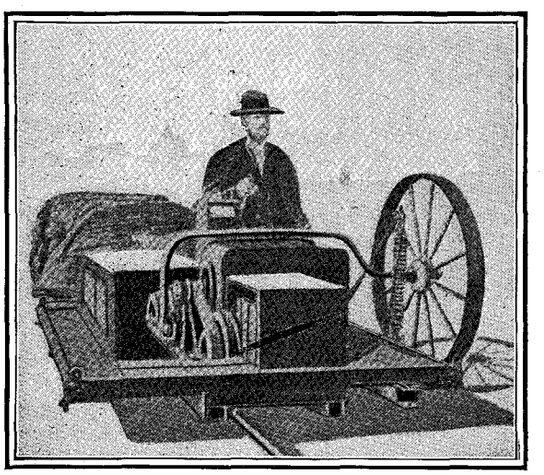
"A new factory has been erected by the *Allgemeine Elektrizitäts-Gesellschaft*, and the manufacture in quantities has already begun. The company operates one of the largest incandescent-lamp factories in the world. Its continuing to manufacture incandescent lamps, while claiming a much greater economy for the Nernst lamp, might lead to misunderstandings. The company, therefore, makes the announcement that it does not think that the Nernst lamp will so soon take the place of the incandescent lamp, but is of the opinion that in the course of time it will have considerable influence upon the use of incandescent lamps and on the employment of arc-lamps as well."

The company's pavilion in the German court of honor in Electricity Building has its interior entirely illuminated by Nernst lamps, some 300 lamps being distributed over the walls and the domed ceiling of the structure.

SINGLE-RAIL TRACTION.

MANY single-rail roads have been devised or proposed, some of them more curious than practical. One form, however, known in France as the Decauville system, is in very wide use in Europe and in British India, altho almost unknown in this country. It is thus described in *Cosmos* (Paris, July 21):

"In the Decauville single-rail railway, the vehicle, borne by two wheels placed tandem, rolls on one rail. The vehicle and



SINGLE-RAIL ELECTRIC AUTOMOBILE.

its load are balanced as nearly as possible, and it is only necesary to keep it in equilibrium when in motion, which can be done with a slight expenditure of energy.

"If the wagon is drawn by a horse, the animal is placed at its side, and a light bow, fixed to the seat, prevents its tipping to one side or the other; if it is pushed by a man, he uses a fixed handle, which effects the same result.

"This mode of transportation is very economical, because the single rail is cheap and can without inconvenience be laid on the edge of even the narrowest roads, and it is greatly in use at present.

"In British India it has been slightly modified. The axle for preserving the balance of the system bears a light but large wheel, which rolls on the ground; it is like the balance-float of a pirogue. The weight of the load bears almost entirely on the rail. Vehicles of this kind are usually drawn by oxen.

"Messrs. Mavor and Coulson, of Glasgow, have had the idea of applying mechanical traction to this kind of vehicle. A battery of accumulators and a motor are arranged between the two driving-wheels, and impart motion to them.

"A vehicle thus equipped will carry only about a quarter of a ton, but two others may be coupled to it, carrying each a ton. The service is remarkably swift, the mechanical motor being more active than an animal, especially when the latter is an ox."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A New Use for Carbonic Acid.—The destruction of rats by carbonic acid, especially in case of epidemics, is recommended by Paul Apery, a druggist in Constantinople, so we are told by the *Zeitschrift für die gesammte Kohlensäure-Industrie*. Apery describes at length the advantages of this method, which was discovered by accident. In November of last year,

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on board the *Polis Mytilini*, a death from plague occurred while the ship was in the harbor of Trieste. When the vessel was disinfected, it was noted as very surprising at first that there were no rats on board. But when several barrels of molasses (the contents of which were in a state of fermentation) were removed, a quantity of dead rats were found. It was evident that they had been killed by the carbonic acid that streamed from the casks. Apery recommends, therefore, that nuts, cheese, fat, etc., be placed in the hold of an infected ship to attract the rats. Then by means of a cylinder of liquid carbonic acid the gas may be turned among the vermin. By reason of its great specific gravity, the gaseous carbonic acid will remain in the bottom of the hold. When the rats have been killed, the fumes can be cleared off either by means of ordinary ventilation, or, if necessary, by an air-pump; after which the dead rats can be disinfected and removed. The advantages claimed by Apery for this method are the following: 1. When the carbonic acid gas is poured thus on the rats, they have no longer the strength to escape, but die where they are. 2. It is the cheapest possible means of getting rid of them. 3. The carbonic acid has no odor, is not inflammable, and destroys nothing. 4. The height to which the gas is allowed to rise in the hold can be easily controlled. 5. The gas penetrates into all holes and crannies. 6. No evil effects remain, and the space can be used immediately after ventilation. To some extent this method can be used also in cellars and houses.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FACTS AND HYPOTHESES.

SCIENTIFIC men are often mistaken in their hypotheses, seldom in their facts. This is the conclusion reached by the author of an editorial in the London *Times* (September 6), reviewing the recent address of the president of the British Association. It is the writer's belief that the public often confuses the one kind of mistake with the other, and hence that scientific fact does not always meet with the popular acknowledgment that it should have. Says *The Times*:

"There are many subjects in relation to which the public might derive benefit from the constant application of scientific knowledge; some in which this application might be made by each individual for himself; some in which it can be made only by the intervention of the legislature. To take but one illustration, much has lately been discovered with regard to the methods and channels by which contagious diseases are diffused among the community. We know, for example, that tuberculous diseases are largely diffused by the consumption of unboiled milk, and that enteric [typhoid] fever is largely due to defective sewerage arrangements. But a very great number of people feed their children on unboiled milk, without a thought of inquiry into the health of the cows from which it was derived; and many local authorities are content to leave the sewerage of the districts under their control in a thoroughly unsatisfactory condition. Public opinion does not enforce the necessary individual precaution in the former case, nor the necessary corporate precaution in the latter. People say that they do not believe in the reality of the danger, or in the efficiency of the proposed safeguard. One or the other is regarded as a scientific 'fad,' and we are told that men of science have often been wrong. Granted; but they have, as a rule, only been wrong in their hypotheses, very seldom in their facts. When a new fact is observed, the first duty of the inquirer is to consider how it has been brought about, and the best available method for this purpose is to conjecture, to construct a hypothetical explanation, and to bring this to the test of experiment. If it bear the test, the hypothesis becomes established, and takes rank as a doctrine, which is true, and which may in its turn be used to explain other occurrences. In some cases, it does not bear the test of experiment, and then it has to be abandoned and forgotten. 'The world little knows,' wrote Faraday, 'how many of the thoughts and theories which have passed through the mind of a scientific investigator have been crushed in silence and secrecy by his own severe criticism and adverse examination; that in the most successful instances not a tenth of the suggestions, the hopes, the wishes, the preliminary conclusions, have been realized.' Unfortunately, unverified hypotheses sometimes escape from the control of their originator, and receive such general acceptance as magazine articles or paragraphs can confer. Sometimes they pass out of the hands of the man of science, who desires only to increase the sum of human knowledge, and are turned to profitable account by the charlatan, who desires only to make money out of the credulity of the ignorant. In science, as in other directions, it is necessary to distinguish between the real and the factitious; and the part of wisdom is to accept and act upon the conclusions of the former, with as much care as should be taken to avoid being victimized by the latter."

THE WEATHER BUREAU AND THE GALVESTON STORM.

THE success of the Weather Bureau in its forecast of the great storm that swept over Galveston deserves wider notice than has been given to it. Papers that are quick to note and comment on the failure of a forecast seem to have no eyes for a conspicuous instance of fulfilment. The Chicago *Tribune*, however, in the following editorial puts the credit where it belongs. It says:

"The great value of the Weather Bureau and the remarkable correctness of its observations, all things considered, have been demonstrated by the events of the last few days. It gave warning of the recent hurricane days before it manifested itself on the Texas coast. It anticipated its course from the vicinity of San Domingo until it reached Cuban waters, where it made a deflection no human skill could have foreseen. The bureau was not caught napping, however. It sent out its hurricane signals both for the Atlantic coast and the Gulf coast, and when the storms turned from the north of Cuba westward the bureau turned its attention to Texas, and on the morning of the 7th, nearly thirty-six hours before the disaster, warned the people of Galveston of its coming, and during that day extended its signals all along the Texas coast, thus preventing vessels from leaving. Of course the observers could not know what terrible energy it would gain crossing the Gulf of Mexico."

The writer says in closing:

"In times gone by it has been the habit to jeer at Old Probabilities, and whenever a prediction failed of verification to condemn the Weather Bureau as unreliable and not worth the expense of its maintenance. During the last few years, however, its operators have gained in skill, and its record now is of a character of which its officials have every reason to be proud and which amply justifies whatever expense it may entail by its great saving of life and property. There are still some unreasonable persons who flout at the Bureau every time its 'predictions' fail of verification. They do not take into account that its 'predictions' are 'probabilities' only, and that in unsettled weather, especially in the region of Chicago, where the influences of the lake are uncertain factors to deal with, even probabilities are sometimes hazardous. In no instance, however, when a storm is on its way or the wind at a distance has reached a certain velocity, has the Bureau failed in its forecasts. Its 'probabilities' are rapidly becoming certainties."

Hydrogen in the Air.—That pure air contains free hydrogen has been established by the measurements of M. Armand Gautier, a French chemist, and he believes that it is not an impurity, like the hydrocarbon gases found near large cities, but an unfailing constituent, since it exists even where the atmosphere is freest from contamination. Says a report in *Cosmos* of a paper on the subject read by M. Gautier on July 9 to the Paris Academy of Sciences:

"After having experimented on the air of the city and that of the country, as well as that of high mountains, M. Armand Gautier, to get rid of the fermentations that take place even at great elevations and of emanations from neighboring valleys, has attempted to collect sea-air, which is more remote from these influences and which the prevailing winds bring without break from the highest regions of the atmosphere. He took his station on the lighthouse of Roches-Douvres, and, availing himself of a

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long-continued northwest wind, he was able to collect specimens of air that had traversed great distances over the sea and had thus been freed from all influences of the land. The experiments made in this place have confirmed the results obtained earlier. As we eliminate all the influences of the soil, of vegetation, and of cities, the hydrocarbons of the air disappear, but free hydrogen persists. Mr. Gautier reaches the conclusion that pure air contains normally about two ten-millionths of its volume of free hydrogen, to which is added from the exhalations and fermentations of the soil, vegetables, and animals, or is brought in from human industries, a certain proportion of hydrocarbons, whose quantity is relatively large in populous cities, smaller in the country, very slight on rocky plateaus and high mountain peaks, and is almost lacking in pure air in motion in the loftiest regions of the atmosphere."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

USE OF UMBRELLAS IN WAR.

SINCE the day when the user of the first umbrella in London was mobbed on the streets, this useful article has never acquired dignity in the eyes of Western nations. Altho an emblem of royalty in the East, it has been accorded scant respect with us, and even its theft is regarded as rather a joke than a misdemeanor. It was therefore with fear and trembling that, in a discussion on ambulance service for troops in the field, Surgeon-Major Valentine Matthews, of the British army, recently suggested that under certain circumstances it might be used by troops. His suggestion applies only to the hospital service; but *The Hospital*, which commends it, believes that it might be extended still further. Much of the suffering borne by those who have to lie for hours on the field is not, it says, due to wounds so much as to the blazing sun or the pouring rain. It continues:

"Surgeon-Major Matthews says it would be an advantage if the regimental ambulance wagons were provided with some form of curtain, something of the nature of a light sunblind, readily detachable, which might be supported on light poles, say two feet high, and put over the wounded in the ditch or other shelter to which they may have been temporarily brought, or to which they may have crawled. It has also occurred to him, and he says he mentions this at the risk of exciting some ridicule, that some temporary shelter might be obtained by the use of umbrellas. A large umbrella of suitable color, marked conspicuously with the Geneva Cross, with a flap or curtain, forming an article something between a carriage umbrella and an umbrella tent, might be employed. It should have a spike at the end of the stick, and be pitched under cover not upright but obliquely, anchorwise, and he believes that in this way shelter might be provided for two or three men, and that by the use of a certain number of such articles some of the suffering due to prolonged exposure to the sun or the weather might be averted."

The Hospital's comment is as follows:

"We do not think that the author of this suggestion need apologize. Shelter tents have been much used in other armies, even for those who were not wounded, and as for the umbrella, most of our ideas as to fitness are purely conventional. Of course, the idea of a soldier doing sentry-go under an umbrella is absurd. But is it more absurd than the very familiar sight of a sentry walking up and down Pall Mall in the pouring rain without one? The Boers are without prejudice in military matters, and as soon as they were 'commandeered' for the war they are said to have bought up all the umbrellas in the country. They knew their native rains, and, soldiers or no soldiers, they did not see why they should get wet."

Indefinite Renewal of Vitiated Air.—"The scientific world," says *Electricity*, "is deeply interested in the announcement . . . of the discovery by the French chemists, MM. Desgrez and Balthazard, of a process for renewing air indefinitely. As described, the method employed by these chemists completely restores to vitiated air its vital and wholesome quality. Bioxid or peroxid of sodium is used by the Frenchmen, and they assert that in process of decomposition, presumably at normal temperatures, it gives off oxygen and at the same time absorbs the carbonic acid produced by human breath and burning of gas. The discoverers assert that by the application of their process divers and others who have to spend time under water or in tunnels or mines can have pure air created and continually renewed inside of an aluminum helmet, which is coated on the inside with preparation of the bioxid of sodium."

RECENT TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

MEDICAL men, says the Paris correspondent of *The Evening Post* (New York), in a report of the recent medical congress in that city, are now extremely confident of their ability to cope with tuberculosis if it can be seen in time. The sanitarium treatment of the disease has been very successful, and we have begun to realize that not drugs and change of climate, but fresh air, good food, freedom from care, and the constant encouragement and direction of a medical adviser are the important elements in the treatment of the disease. The writer also points out important advances in the early diagnosis of tuberculosis. He says:

"In one communication it was pointed out that the general family history might give valuable hints. Just as soon as the tubercle bacillus begins to grow in the human body, it commences to elaborate toxins that get into the general circulation. These are especially liable to affect any organ within the body that is not up to the normal standard of health. If, for instance, the patient comes of a family of dyspeptics, then the stomach is likely to be affected early; if of a rheumatic family, then joint symptoms will be observed. Attention to the family history, then, may enable the practitioner to suspect the preliminary stages of tuberculosis long before any physical signs would furnish sufficient grounds for a diagnosis. The Roentgen rays are of some service, too, but there was a new method presented at this congress that promises to make the diagnosis of tuberculosis in its earliest stages a simple procedure. The method suggested is precisely the same as that used at present for the assured recognition of typhoid fever. If a drop of the blood of a typhoid patient be added to a culture of typhoid bacilli, it causes the bacilli to become massed together, to become agglutinated. The blood of a person who either has not or has not had typhoid will not cause this reaction to take place. Professor Arloing, of Marseilles, has discovered that a similar reaction takes place if the blood of a tuberculous patient be added to a liquid culture of tubercle bacilli. Early diagnosis then becomes easy. If tuberculosis can be discovered with certainty in its incipient stages, its cure is comparatively simple."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

TEMPERATURE OF THE UPPER AIR.—Observations described by Hergesell in *Petermann's Mittheilungen* show that: "Even at a height of a few hundred yards the daily variation of temperature is very slight, being only a few tenths of a degree during the night and 3° to 4° C. during the day at an elevation of 800 metres [2,600 feet]. . . . At a height of 10,000 metres [32,600 feet] . . . the vertical decrease of temperature may exceed 40° C. [72° F.], but no rule can be laid down regarding the dependence of air temperature on elevation."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

TO WORK PETROLEUM UNDER THE SEA.—A committee has been formed under the presidency of Mr. Devi, member of the Russian Mining Department, to decide the question of the exploration of petroleum under the sea, near Baku. The chief points to be decided are, according to *The Engineering and Mining Journal:* (1) The suggestion of the Technical Committee for the preservation of the Baku oil-fields to reclaim that part of the sea by filling it in, so that the new petroleum plots may be joined to the old plots and so form one field, or to reclaim, by some special means, single spots forming islets not connected with the mainland. To ascertain the depth of the sea over the submarine petroleum deposits and the extent of that zone. (2) What measures should be taken to prevent accidents to workmen by fire, and also for securing the works on the submarine oil pots from destruction and from the access of the sea water into the tubes of the wells and the wasting of the oil from fountains. (3) What measures should be adopted to prevent the new works on the sea from interfering with the shipping entering or leaving the port of Baku.

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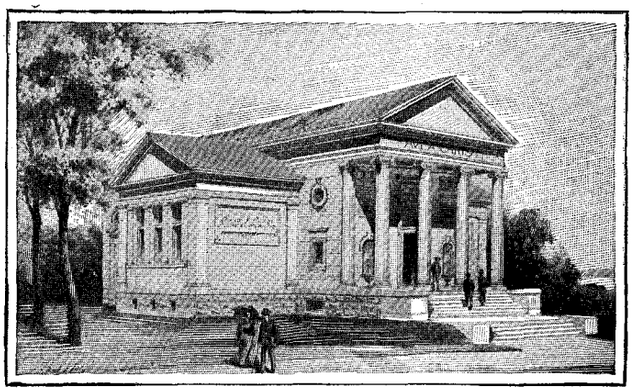
THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE NEW "HALL OF CHRIST" AT CHAUTAUQUA.

THE first institution devoted wholly to a study of Christ, now in course of erection at Chautauqua, has attracted much attention from the press. Mr. Paul J. Pelz, the architect of the building, gives the following description of it in the Chautauqua *Assembly Herald:*

"I believe this building is a forerunner, and that eventually every city in the land will have its own Hall of the Christ. I do not consider that it will be a temple of worship as generally understood by that term. It is in reality a place where spiritual truths will be taught, the same as is every other science. This



THE HALL OF CHRIST AT CHAUTAUQUA.
Courtesy of *The Christian Herald.*

will be irrespective of creed and denomination; not a house of prayer, but a house where Christian people go for enlightenment in matters transcendental. It is for all who believe that Christ is the incarnation of the divine, and is for all Christians in the broadest sense of the word.

"Here classes will be formed, lectures given and, if desired, illustrated descriptions of the Holy Land and scenes identified with the life and teachings of Christ. Chautauqua is a place where all denominations meet on an equal footing. It is the neutral territory for all creeds, and hence is preeminently the place for such a building. Ritualism is to have no place here, but all are to meet in the life of Christ; hence, it is to be a common ground for spiritual exercise, as a gymnasium is devoted to muscular training."

In architecture the building is Roman-Greek, because Christ made His appearance when the Roman application of the Greek lines was the dominant style in the architecture of the civilized world, and the mind is thus brought into harmony with the thought and expression of those days. The site chosen is a grove on rising ground near the classic Hall of Philosophy. The following additional details are given in *The Assembly Herald:*

"The building is to be reached by steps leading to a pillared portico from which entrance is gained to the Hall. . . . From either side of the building, just beyond the entrance, extends a wing, the one to the east to be devoted to sacred art showing the Christ as idealized through the succeeding centuries, and that on the west works on the life of Christ. From the entrance the hall extends unobstructed for seventy feet to the apse, under which is a raised platform leading back through an arch to the statue of Christ. The platform is gained by small stairways leading from either side of the Hall. The Hall itself is to be lighted by a series of windows located high in the walls, thus leaving a large space between the wainscot and the windows for mural decorations. . . . These mural paintings are to give the keynote and constitute the leading feature of the interior scheme of decoration."

When asked as to these paintings, Mr. Pelz said:

"Our Lord always used parables to impart His divine truth, and it is my idea to here illustrate these parables, as I hold that a spiritual truth is more clearly impressed on the mind by a natural truth or a picture rather than by an abstract proposition, an idea I have held since when as a boy I first saw an illustrated Bible.

"In order to give the proper form, these paintings should not be a series of framed pictures but a continuous picture, with the divisions between the parables suggested by objects falling naturally into the paintings, as trees or buildings. Of this the clearest idea will be gained by reference to the dome paintings in the United States capitol by Brumidi."

Mr. Pelz believes the fifty or more parables can be thus arranged. Certain of these portrayals may be adaptations of existing pictures by good masters; some of them, for instance, the parable of "The Mustard Seed," might of themselves constitute the divisions; while others, as "The Pearl without Price," might be represented by single figures.

EVIDENCE OF DESIGN IN HISTORY.

IN a general way, the course of human events has always been ascribed by religiously minded persons to the direction of the gods or of a divine Providence. No systematic attempt, however, appears to have been made to examine the whole sequence of historic events from the earliest period now made known by modern archeology to the time in which we live, with a view of ascertaining how far these events seem to have been prepared for and arranged.

With the spirit of another Paley examining into the mechanism of the human eye, Mr. William Larminie, an English historical student, devotes a lengthy article in *The Contemporary Review* (September) to a survey of universal history. We have now reached a stage, he points out, at which we can take such a wide survey with greater profit than at any previous period. Thanks to archeological research, the history of man now extends back some eight thousand or nine thousand years. The scene presented by the globe even as late as three thousand years ago furnishes a wonderful contrast to that of to-day. "Let us look at a map," says Mr. Larminie, "and compare the illuminated area of civilization [three thousand years ago] with the regions outside it. We realize how insignificant is the islet of light in the midst of the darkness, what a mere handsbreadth it is of blue against a whole heaven of threatening storm-clouds." Only in the tiny space represented by Egypt, the plains of the Tigris and Euphrates, Syria, and Asia Minor, a few islets in the Ægean, and of the European continent about as much as would now be equaled by half a dozen English counties, do we find communities living a settled life. China, Japan, and India are isolated worlds surrounded by vast and savage tracts. Says the writer:

"Thirty centuries ago the world was without literature and without art—except in one or two favored localities. Outside of these it had neither literature, nor art, nor philosophy, nor science, nor religion, nor government. The thirty centuries have given it a dozen literatures rich and magnificent, art in profusion, philosophy without end, science as we now know it, the Christian religion, and its two great rivals, Buddhism and Mohammedanism. They have given it that which in one respect is the most striking gift of all, a settled condition of life and government over vast areas that never before knew it, the one condition that permits of the existence of all the foregoing. The modern map reverses the ancient; and whereas the settled order and the deliberate effort to pursue the arts of civilization were once the exception, an exception in constant danger of extinction, the settled order is now the rule, and the unsettled and inferior organizations are everywhere retreating into the remoter corners of the earth. . . . . .

"We see unrolled before us in truth a great drama of many acts and countless characters, at once rapid in movement and complex; of complexity ever growing, yet evolving itself with a certainty that knows no hesitation, and developing crisis after crisis, each grander and more astonishing than its predecessor;

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the whole marked by the unquestionable stamp of unity, a progress that, in spite of particular losses and tragic failures, is too large to endure denial. When we contemplate such a series of events, a result already so immense, and promising to become the parent of other results still more gigantic, are we not forced to inquire if this concatenation of things is mere accident, or does it as certainly imply a designer as the watch implies the maker, or the Lear or Hamlet the poet's constructive mind?"

Mr. Larminie leaves out India and the far East in his survey. In themselves and in the number of human beings which these civilizations have influenced, they are of huge importance, he remarks; but they have as yet taken little part in that energetic, militant movement of universal history which has culminated in modern civilization. India, indeed, has had great influence on the purely intellectual and philosophical world outside her own borders, and it is probable, says Mr. Larminie, that "the old speculation of India is at last destined to exercise a world-wide influence; and her age-long isolation, terminated by the remarkable ascendancy of the most western power in the Old World, is probably part of the larger unfolding of the human drama of which the future has to show the significance."

Mr. Larminie traces in detail what may be called the dramatic significance of western civilization, from its beginnings in Babylonia and Egypt, to its later developments in Phœnicia, Palestine, Greece, Rome, medieval and modern Europe. In each instance, he finds soil and climate of the dominant countries admirably adapted to the quality of the peoples who found their way thither, and these peoples thus furnished in wondrous fashion with an environment that protects and draws forth their peculiar traits and thus enables them to play the part for which they are best fitted by temperament in the universal drama of progress. Thus with Greece:

"Had the Greeks been placed in Scandinavia or Iceland, or even Spain, would not their genius have been wholly wasted? Had their isles and peninsulas been occupied by a people of Roman type, where would have been the delicate intellectual and artistic culture? Indeed, the Greeks themselves were not equal in all their branches. Had the whole race been Dorian we should hardly have seen an Athens. Not only was Greece thus rightly placed with reference to Africa and Asia, and provided with a people able to profit by such opportunities, it had the third cooperating factor of physical conformation. It was sheltered against invasion, far more effectually than Italy, by a succession of regions enclosed by lofty mountains like a series of water-tight compartments in a ship. The small size of its isolated territories led to the formation of great numbers of small states, none sufficiently powerful to crush the individuality of the others. These states were a kind of miniature anticipation of those of modern Europe, tho united by language and many other bonds, effectually divided by their jealous spirit of political independence. Centralization would have been fatal to their peculiar growth. When, however, that culture was brought to its height and had received at Athens the seal and stamp of indisputable supremacy, the course of events took a new turn with extraordinary rapidity. This had two aspects. The progress of civilization had hitherto been northwestward. One would naturally have expected it to continue that course from Greece. But it did not. Italy, in spite of its Greek colonies, seemed to offer an impenetrable barrier to the spread of Greek culture. But, while the spread of this influence in Italy would have quite unfitted Rome for her destinies, in the East it had a great part to play. In the lands of old civilization, it was first destined to exhibit its energies on a foreign soil, and to enter into marvelous combinations, for which in the West there would have been no material."

Then came the hegemony of Macedon, and the meteoric appearance of Alexander. "It is noteworthy," says the writer, "that Alexander's career terminated when he had done just what was required. He was not allowed time to found a dynasty, to consolidate an empire greater than the Persian. For he might thus have rendered the career of Rome impossible, even if he had not realized the design attributed to him of carrying his arms westward when the East was all subdued. In the latter event he would most certainly have put an end to the career of the Italian city. But no empire he could have founded would have done the work of Rome."

Rome, in the mean time, was rapidly pushing forward, "escaping dangers of every kind—big and little, near and distant"; and until it had played its magnificent part in history, laying the foundations for the world's law and order, as Greece had laid the foundations for the world's art, literature, and philosophy, nothing could stop its triumphant onrush. This wonderful race, Mr. Larminie points out, was placed "just in the precise situation where it had the greatest scope for the exercise of its gifts. Italy, the central Mediterranean peninsula, large, compact, and fertile, was the natural center of an empire which was to have as neighbors at opposite extremities the Parthian and the Pict." If the "naturalist" should maintain that the career of Rome was "merely the outcome of ordinary chances and conditions, let him tell us," says the writer, "why such a power did not arise in Gaul or Spain or Africa"; and if Rome's greatness or that of other nations is attributed by the naturalist to the automatic outcome of geographic environment, how is it that Rome, Greece, Judea, Babylonia, and Egypt no longer produce great races or influence the world at crucial epochs?

Another striking event is the final division of the Roman empire into two halves, each destined to play a remarkable part in medieval history. This was precipitated by a curious geographical fact—the situation of Byzantium. Why did such a site as that of Constantinople exist at all? asks Mr. Larminie. And he answers:

"There is no other like it in the world. Why was it found in the Roman empire, and why did it lie within the sphere of Greek, not Latin, influence? Byzantium was an old city, but it had remained unimportant. Its situation had failed, even in Greek hands, to make it populous or powerful, much less the center of a great dominion. Yet there the situation was prepared from of old by nature, and ready to fulfil its purpose. It attracted the attention of the autocrat of Rome, and he decided to make it the seat of government. Rome was deserted, the momentous change being carried out by the will of a single man. The consequences of the step even still dominate the modern world. The withdrawal of the governing power to Constantinople not only left the West more exposed to attack, but decided that its future development, both political and religious, should take place, in the main, on Latin lines, apart from Greek influences. Christianity was th only Eastern influence admitted. But its specially Greek form would probably have been as incompatible with the development of Europ as early Greek culture would have been with the development of pagan Rome. Christian Rome was left a clear field for the papacy as an organizing power; and while the influence of Constantinople led inevitably to the separateness of the Greek Church, with its yet-to-be-developed consequences, through the growth of Russia, another gigantic event so crippled its strength as wholly to destroy for ages its power of rivalry with Rome. This event was, of course, the rise of Mohammedanism."

Mr. Larminie's examination of the significance of Mohammedanism, of the "peculiar piece of machinery" called the Norman Conquest, of the various incursions of the Northern barbarians upon Southern Europe, of the Wars of the Roses, and of the rise of Spain, England, and Russia to vast world-power, is exceedingly suggestive. His conclusions are momentous. He says:

"If it be granted, for instance, that the complex contrivances of animal organisms are due to the accumulation of survivals of accidental improvements, we shall perceive a difference between that case and the progress of improvements in the organism of human society. In the former it may be maintained that if sufficient time be allowed, a million failures matter little compared with one success. The success survives. But in the historical evolution of man, whatever may have happened in the prehis-

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toric ages, there has been no time to allow of the correction of mistakes, no opportunity to retrieve failures. The disturbance even of any of the main factors would have brought the whole scheme to ruin. But every part of the design has been worked out with rapid and complete success. There has been failure nowhere. This we can fully appreciate only when we call to mind how numerous and complex were the factors. In every country that has played any remarkable part, the coexistence has been required of: fitness of physical conditions; fitness of position in regard to other countries; fitness of the character and genius of the people; fitness of time. Let us consider the complexity of the first three of these, and that they are every one the result of other precedent and most complex conditions. Let us remember that each complexity depends for its ultimate effect on its relation to other surrounding complexities of equal intricacy; that, as the movement grows and widens with the introduction of new factors, the total complexity increases in geometrical ratio, and yet that there never has been the slightest hitch in the progress of the drama, neither pause nor hesitation in the rapidity of its evolution. It must also not be forgotten that, in addition to the general conditions enumerated above, there must be reckoned special contrivances, so to speak, such as in the physical world the unique position of Constantinople; in the world of men the appearance at particular junctures of extraordinary genius. That nature, if blind, should reserve her Alexanders, her Cæsars, her Napoleons, for the exact moment when they are required to carry through gigantic changes, seems to ascribe overmuch to chance. . . . . .

"Has the bark of human civilization sailed so swiftly and prosperously without a steersman, propelled by chance gales? The waters it has traversed have been no deep and open sea swept by uniform and favorable breezes, over which, like a raft, it might drift to its destination. They have, on the contrary, abounded in narrow and winding passages full of rocks and shoals and adverse currents. When we hear that a ship, on a given day, has left the shores of Britain for some port on Indian or Pacific seas, and a few weeks afterward that it has reached its destination, we know what is implied. We know that the ship has been driven by steam, that it has been steered carefully and with assured skill over Biscayan waves, through Gibraltar Straits, along the wide Mediterranean waters, that it has made, with unerring directness, for the narrow Channel dug through the desert sands, has threaded it rapidly, has traversed steadily the long Red Sea, and, emerging at length upon the open ocean, has chosen over the pathless the one straight path which will lead it to Bombay, or Calcutta, or Melbourne. If it be possible for us to believe that a ship without steam, without rudder, or without pilot, could accomplish such a voyage in equal time, or in any time, we may likewise hold it probable that the bark of human civilization has sailed so far in safety on its tortuous and dangerous course, without knowledge, without choice, and without guide."

New Light on the Tower of Babel.—Some interesting new facts relating to the Tower of Babel were given by the French savant, De Mély, in a recent session of the Paris Academy of Inscriptions. The information is based on a newly discovered manuscript written by a Greek traveler named Harpocration, and shows the condition of the tower in the year 355 A.D. The manuscript has now been published by order of the Academy of Sciences. The following summary is given by *The Independent*:

"This document contains the description of a Chaldee temple which Harpocration visited, and of which he gives accurate measurements. The identity of the temple with the Birs-Nimrûd, or the 'Tower of Babel,' he claims can not be doubted, and this is the oldest important account. The tower was renovated in the days of Nebuchadnezzar in the sixth century B.C., and this king reports in the inscription he caused to be made that the tower had been erected forty-two generations before his times. Thanks to the reports of Harpocration we now know that as late as the fourth Christian century this temple was still a place of worship, altho it ceased to be such some time before 380. The tower was 94 kilometers from Ctesiphon, south of Babylon. It consisted of a very wide substructure, 75 feet high, the sides being 184 meters. In the middle stood a four-cornered tower, built of six sections, one upon the other, each 28 feet high, and upon the top section was a small temple, only 15 feet high. These seven stories together made the structure 67 meters high. The ascent to the temple was by 365 steps, of which 300 were of silver and 65 of gold, the number to equal the days of the year. The division into seven sections corresponded to the days of the week. These details confirm to the letter the conclusions which Oppert had reached through his measurements on the ground."

THE PERSIAN PASSION PLAY.

THE great religious festival of that division of Mohammedanism called the Shiah sect, which includes the Persians and some other Oriental peoples, is the Muharram celebration, held each year for ten days in commemoration of the bloody attack upon the sacred descendants of Mohammed by the Western Moslems. It consists of special services in the mosques, of historical processions, and of theatrical performances, generally in large tents, in the course of which the history of the death of Hussein, the prophet's grandson, is acted in detail, with many Oriental exaggerations and embellishments. This festival forms the subject of an essay in Matthew Arnold's first series of "Essays in Criticism."

In *The Evangelist* (Presb., September 20), the Rev. William A. Shedd, writing from Urumia, in Persia, gives an account of a spectacle of this nature which he recently witnessed in a large public square in that town, before the governor, who was a prince of the royal blood, a large number of nobles, several hundred soldiers, and a dense crowd of people. He writes:

"For three or four hours the processions, twelve or fifteen in number, came at intervals, varying in size and detail, but all representing the same thing, the wreck of Hussein's little army as the victors led them from the battle-field. The bodies of the dead are brought away, the captive women and children are borne on horses and camels, while they are taunted by the victors with gibes and tormented with whips as they go, and the mourners precede or follow, showing their grief with Oriental vehemence. A few of the processions consisted only of mourners, while in others there were none. Several were very elaborate, each with forty or fifty horses, six or eight camels, numerous litters, men in chain armor, and black-draped biers of the dead. Scores of women and children were among the captives, the former being impersonated by men dressed like women. Great standards, surmounted by curious iron frames bearing aloft the sword and hand of Ali and weighted down by silks and shawls, the votive offerings of generous devotees, and beautiful, embroidered banners, added stateliness to the whole and conferred merit on their staggering bearers. Drums and fifes sounded strange, sad, slow, monotonous music, well suited to add to the effect.

"The commemorative features were weird and impressive, but the mourning ranged from the sad to the horrible. One band was made up of half a hundred dervishes, with long, unkempt locks and strange costumes, chanting with slow cadence a weird and piercing dirge, beating time in unison on their bared breasts with the open palm or on their bared backs with chain lashes. Another consisted of as many mullahs of the poorer sort, men who had failed to reach the rewards of ambition and must have felt twinges of jealousy as they passed in the mosque-yards their sleek and rich brethren. The bazar shop-keepers, some men of wealth, had a company of their own, as did also the artisans of the bazar; while each of the others was recruited in a separate ward of the city. All chanted the same dirges, with the same musical accompaniment, and most of them beat their bared breasts as they went. Some, not content with such ordinary expression of grief, had covered their shaven heads with mud and beat them instead of their breasts. There was something indescribably demoniacal in their appearance, besmeared with filth, their eyes staring out of the masks which had dried on their faces. Others beat their backs with chains, striking first over one shoulder and then over the other in changing unison. Most horrible of all were the bloody bands, each member brandishing a sword, while the blood streamed down from their gashed foreheads over their long white shirts. Of course the strokes were mostly feints, and men accompanied them to ward off the blows

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with sticks; but nevertheless it was no mean sacrifice of human blood. The sight of these bands of devotees, band after band, in all about three hundred and fifty, among them little boys, some only ten or twelve years old, was a terrible testimony to the universal need of atonement. The bands, as they swayed back and forth before the governor's stand, demanded the release of prisoners, and did not leave till their demand had been granted. The swaying banners, finely caparisoned camels, and picturesque horsemen of the last procession were passing as I left, and the whole comes vividly before me as one of the most impressive sights of my life. It aroused me to a new realization of some phases of Islam. Perhaps the strangest impression was of the emotional character of Mohammedanism."

A ROMAN CATHOLIC VIEW OF PROTESTANTISM.

IN view of the claim so persistently made that the Roman Catholic races are degenerating and have become, to use Lord Salisbury's phrase, "dying nations," while the Protestant peoples have assumed the guidance of the destinies of the world and are spreading the most advanced type of civilization, it is interesting to note that Roman Catholic journals not only do not admit this claim, but even declare that Protestant powers are not permanently successful as civilizing agencies. A representative discussion from this point of view is found in the Ohio *Waisenfreund*, of Columbus, which in answer to the question, Can the Protestants civilize other nations? answers substantially as follows:

The Protestant Americans have gone into the business of colony-founding, and are boasting loud and long of what they will accomplish in this direction. But the history of their own country proves that Protestantism as a colony-founder is a failure. In those sections of America where the Protestants settled, the Indians have been eradicated. Of the sixteen million Indians who inhabited the present United States four hundred years ago, not a half million are left, and the preservation of these is to be attributed to the zeal of Roman Catholic missionaries. On the other hand, Mexico, Central America, and South America, where the Roman Catholic Spaniards and Portuguese took possession, the Indians have been civilized and the aborigines still live, either in their original condition or mixed with the whites; and the descendants of the heathen Indians constitute the great majority of the population and are thoroughly civilized. The same is true of the Philippines and other countries that were civilized by Roman Catholic immigrants and agencies. And even if evil powers, such as commercialism, the intrigues of the Free Masons, and other anti-Catholic forces, damaged, and even at places destroyed, what Roman Catholic mission enterprise had accomplished, yet the fact remains that the condition of affairs in the Roman Catholic colonies all over the world shows that permanent results have been achieved by them alone, while the Protestant and English influence in North America, among the Hindus of East India, and the blacks of Africa and Australia, means only destruction for these peoples and races. Protestant civilization can be erected only on the ruins of what has preceded it.

The still more recent experience in Samoa only confirms this claim. The chief Malietoa, in a letter printed by the London *Times* some months ago, declared that the civilization which had been introduced by the European powers on those islands had made the people worse than they ever were before. Similar reports come from the Sandwich Islands, a native of which said: "You have taught us to lift up our hands in prayer to heaven, and while we did this, you have stolen our land from under our feet." Protestantism is defection from the true church, and for that reason can not convert or civilize any heathen peoples. Its work among the lower races is done with lead and balls, but not with the truth, and accordingly can not effect a high type of civilization.

Such views of Protestantism are evidently not unusual in Roman Catholic circles. In the Paris Exposition, the "Brothers of Christian Education," the most influential educational organization in France, have exhibited specimens of what is accomplished in their schools. Prominent among these exhibits is a prize essay on "Protestantism" by a boy of fifteen, which offers the following information:

"Protestantism is no religion; it is only a rebellion against all religions. It has none of the marks of religion. It lacks universality in time, in place, and in the world. Protestants descend from Luther and Calvin, and indeed from the heretics of the first centuries, who were rightly condemned because they had departed from the teachings of the apostles. Protestantism is unfruitful of good works. Even if England does spend millions in mission work and in the free distribution of the Bible, this work does not end in good results. Protestants have no unity. Their religion is based on the free investigation of the Bible, and everybody interprets the Scriptures to suit his own taste. Its sects are innumerable and many are ridiculous communions. Protestants no longer believe in the divinity of Christ. In Germany it is forbidden the pastors to preach that Christ is God, and the most learned Protestant theological professors of that country maintain that Jesus Christ never existed. Protestantism is thus really no religion at all. It is a source of great immorality, because it teaches that good works are not meritorious, and thus does not give man the motive or the ability to contend against himself and his evil passions and to grow in good works and virtues. Accordingly Protestantism destroys all moral principles."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE HOLD OF CONFUCIANISM UPON THE CHINESE PEOPLE.

ONE of the most careful recent studies of Confucianism appears this month in an article by Dr. Herbert Allen Giles, for thirteen years a member of the British consular service in the Chinese empire and now professor of Chinese in the University of Cambridge. Dr. Giles's view of Confucianism differs in many particulars from that of most Christian writers. It was freely predicted forty years ago that the hold of Confucius on the Chinese people would soon wane and pass away. On the contrary, says Dr. Giles, "the hold of his wonderful influence seems to-day as strong as ever," in spite of the fact that little or nothing has been done by the emperors in the present century to stimulate zeal in the cause, and notwithstanding the full and friendly tolerance given to the two other religions, Buddhism and Taoism. Confucianism is too deeply rooted in the customs and prejudices of the Chinese to be extirpated, Dr. Giles holds; and therefore Christianity, in order to obtain the same tolerance shown to other religions in China, should make reciprocal concessions. The two most prominent features of Confucianism—the patriarchal system and the worship of ancestors—can not be subverted; Christianity must therefore make the best of them. In Dr. Giles's opinion, had the Jesuit policy in the seventeenth century been followed and ancestor worship pronounced nothing more than a civil rite, Roman Catholicism would be the religion of the Chinese Empire to-day. Yet he does not apparently believe that a real fusion of Confucianism and Christianity can be brought about. He writes (in *The North American Review*, September):

"We are confronted, on the threshold of the latter [Confucianism], by the dogma that man is born good, and that his lapse into evil is wholly due to his environment. Here Christianity would find a compromise impossible. It has scarcely the accommodating breadth of Buddhism, which established itself in Japan in the sixth century A.D., not by denouncing the false gods of the Japanese, but by promptly canonizing all the Shinto ancestor-gods as Bôdhisatvas, second only to Buddha himself. But it might be possible to take a hint from Pope Gregory, who in 601 A.D. addressed a letter to the Abbot Mellitus, then starting for England, pointing out that the temples of the English ought not to be destroyed, but rather 'converted from the worship of devils to the service of the true God, that the nation . . . may the more familiarly resort to the places to which they have been accustomed.' The old sacrifices were also to be retained in form, 'to the end that, while some gratifications are outwardly

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permitted them, they may the more easily consent to the inward consolations of the grace of God.' . . . . . .

"Forty years ago, the 'manifold needs' of Japan were pretty much what those of China are at the present day. All those needs, save one, have been supplied; and Japan now takes an important rank among the nations of the world. She has little or no religion, and does not seem to wish to have any more. Her ethical code, upon which the morals of her people are based, is a legacy from the days when every educated Japanese was a Confucianist. It is a practical workaday code, setting forth a not unattainable ideal. It teaches virtue for virtue's own sake, and can no more be held responsible for the evils which flourish in China than Christianity can be held responsible for the evils which flourish in England."

Upon the whole, Dr. Giles believes that the time has come for Christians to give up frontal attacks upon Confucianism:

"Apart from ancestral worship and the dogma that man is born in righteousness, there is really very little to attack, and the onset would be better diverted in the direction of Buddhism and Taoism. The cardinal virtues which are most admired by Christians are fully inculcated in the Confucian canon, and the general practise of these is certainly up to the average standard exhibited by foreign nations. When the first Chinese ambassador to England, Kuo Sung-tao, was leaving England for home, he said plainly that while in material civilization we were far ahead of China, our national morality was nothing less than shocking. It must indeed seem strange to a Confucianist that, with all our boasted influences of Christianity, it should still be necessary, for instance, to organize a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, the ill-treatment of children being quite unknown in China. Female infanticide has indeed been charged upon Confucianism, but the glaring absurdity of such a charge can be made manifest in a few words. It is possible actually to prove a negative, and show that extensive infanticide can not be practised in China. Every Chinaman throughout the empire, with the very rarest exceptions, marries young. If his wife dies, he marries again; it is not thought proper for widows to remarry, tho some do so. Many well-to-do Chinamen take concubines; some two, three, and even four. Therefore, unless there is an enormous disparity in the numbers of boys and girls born, infanticide must be reduced to very narrow limits. Yet, as late as May, 1897, Mrs. Isabella Bishop said, at a meeting of the Zenana Missionary Society, that 'of eleven Bible-women whom she had seen at a meeting in China, there was not one that had not put an end to at least five girl-babies.' It is a work of supererogation to add that few Chinawomen bear five children.

"Buddhism, which may once have been a religion of pure and lofty conceptions, is now, as seen in China, nothing more than a collection of degrading superstitions, entirely beneath the notice of an educated Confucianist. Its tonsured priests are despised and ridiculed by the people, who openly speak of them as 'bald-headed asses.' Taoism, once a subtle system of philosophy, has been debased in like manner. It has borrowed some of the worst features of Buddhism, which has in turn appropriated several of the absurdities of Taoism. The two, after centuries of rivalry, have long since flourished peacefully side by side.

"With all its merits, Confucianism is seriously wanting in attractiveness to the masses, who really know very little about it. It is a system for the philosopher in his study, not for the peasant at the plow-tail. It offers no consolations of any kind, save those to be derived from a consciousness of having done one's duty. The masses, who respect learning and authority above all things, accept Confucianism as the criterion of a perfect life. They daily perform the ceremonies of ancestral worship in all loyalty of heart, and then go off and satisfy other cravings by the practise of the rites and ceremonies of Buddhism and Taoism, which have so much more to offer by way of reward. Still, wherever Chinamen go they carry with them in their hearts the two leading features of Confucianism, the patriarchal system and ancestral worship.

"During the past century, the sphere of Confucian influence has been enormously widened. Not to mention increase of population within the boundaries of China proper, there has been extension and consolidation in Turkestan or the New Dominion, won by the victorious arms of Tso Tsung-tang in his campaigns of 1871–1878. Emigration, which was almost unknown in 1800, is in 1900 an every-day detail at the ports of Southern China. According to the favorite Chinese theory of 'fulness and decay,' it would only be expected that, after such a period of prosperity as was witnessed in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the doctrine should suffer a temporary eclipse. Still, if this century has not been actually propitious to the peaceful development of Confucianism, opposition to Christianity has certainly proved a great stimulus, calling forth its worst features instead of its best—militant features of bigotry and fanaticism, of which Confucius, whose daily texts were Reciprocity and Forbearance, would have been the last to approve.

"If Buddhism and Taoism could be displaced by Christianity, and Confucianism be recognized in its true sense as a pure cult of virtue, with commemorative ceremonies in honor of its founder and of family ancestors who have gone before, one great barrier between ourselves and the Chinese would be broken down forever."

THE CHURCH OF THE SILENT DEMAND.

PROFESSOR JAMES, of Harvard University, has recently said that the late Prentice Mulford is the most interesting example of mystic that America has thus far produced. It is unfortunate, however, for his fame and influence that his teachings are buried in a work of six large volumes, full of rambling, ungrammatical, and repetitious statements; altho the pearls to be constantly found there make the labor worth while to those interested in the practical application of the idealistic school of metaphysics. It has been suggested that a very useful work of condensation and literary restatement remains for some adequately equipped student of Mulford's philosophy. In the mean time, his following is said to be increasing. *The Religio-Philosophical Journal* makes the interesting statement that his disciples have inaugurated a movement in Chicago "to perpetuate the philosophy which he taught, viz., that self is capable of ruling absolutely the body and spirit; that self is the spirit and may shape its own career; that the body is fair or ugly, well or sick, according as the spirit is pure or impure. The organization is incorporated as the 'Auto Club,' and already has two hundred members, mostly young men and women."

Prentice Mulford was a unique personality in many ways, and the outward course of his life was not such as would suggest the evolution of a prophet of a new dispensation. His early days were spent in the Californian gold-fields, and somewhat later in the editorship of a country paper in Sonoma, north of San Francisco. Afterward he became a well-known figure in New York journalism. His large work, entitled "Your Forces and How to Use Them," is a reprint of addresses which he first publicly delivered and then sent out as issues of his "White Cross Library." Mulford himself is said to have been by nature sensitive and shrinking, and predisposed to an agnostic view of things; but through the application of his favorite theory that "thoughts are things," and that demand systematically put forth will bring any desired end, he is said to have revolutionized his own nature and to some extent his surroundings. He met a peaceful death while alone in a boating trip. One of his last and most cherished plans was to erect an edifice in New York to be called "The Church of the Silent Demand." The model, in the form of a Greek temple, is still exhibited in this city.

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

THE following definition of "a bishop" by "a very low churchman" appears in a recent number of *Punch*, anent the recent troubles in the Anglican Church on the subject of ritual: "A bishop, or, literally, overseer; that is to say, one who overlooks, so-called from their overlooking everything they do not wish to see."

A MISSIONARY and two converts of the Christian Catholic Church in Zion (Alexander Dowie) were recently driven from the town of Mansfield, Ohio, by a mob. Says *The Mirror* (St. Louis): "The missionary was holding a meeting when attacked. Officers tried to protect him, but he was followed to the depot by several hundred people. He was a target for all kinds of missiles and was kicked and cuffed until he presented a piteous spectacle. While the missionary was held at the depot the mob went to where he had been preaching and escorted his converts to the depot, sending them all away amid jeers and a storm of stones. All this occurred on the Christian Sabbath and was done in the name of Christianity. Yet we grow indignant at the barbarity and ignorance of the Boxers in China. The Dowieites may not be ideal people in many ways, but they are better than the Ohio Boxers."

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

THE MEANING OF IMPERIALISM.

IN discussing the South African crisis in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* several months ago, a Dutch writer, Dr. A. Kuyper, a member of the States-General of the Netherlands, makes some remarks on imperialism which are very striking, the more so, perhaps, because the writer seems to have a genuine admiration for the British people whom he criticizes. Taking strong ground against the action of England in South Africa, he is of opinion that a policy so unjust, on the part of a nation which has always claimed to be a champion of liberty, must spring from some radical change of national feeling which has rendered the English of the present day insensible to the wrong they are doing. He writes:

"How are we to resolve this enigma? For really it baffles one to think of charging the glorious nation which, during the whole of this century, we have looked upon as leading the world in liberty and progress, with the crime of this absolutely iniquitous war, a war of rapine and of conquest, and for which only the most frivolous pretexts can be alleged. In my opinion the British nation is, in many respects, surpassed by none. Were not I a Dutchman I should choose to be an Englishman. The veracity of the British people is, as a rule, above suspicion. With them, duty and right are innate sentiments. Their political institutions have been the object of universal imitation. In no nation shall we find a more marked development of self-respect. English literature, tho inferior in point of art, is distinguished by a conception of life at once serious, healthy, and profound. Even in the cut of their garments and the care of their bodies, Englishmen maintain a certain dignity which imposes respect. The philanthropy of the nation knows no bounds; its morality is above the average; and in all that pertains to religion it easily takes the lead. How is it, then, that such a people should have been brought to such a fall?

"The answer to the enigma lies in the magic charm of the word 'imperialism' taken in a national sense, which differs fundamentally from the personal imperialism of an Alexander the Great or a Napoleon. Down to our own time national imperialism had only appeared once in history, namely, in the Cæsarism of the Romans; but now the same phenomenon reappears in the form of Anglo-Saxon jingoism. The analogies between the two are really striking. At Rome, as in England to-day, there was a strict observance of justice between citizens coupled with a want of respect bordering on contempt for the rights of other peoples. On the part of Rome there was a fixed resolve to dominate the known world by its land army; on the part of our friends who sing 'Rule Britannia,' it is an equally settled maxim that they shall rule the world by their fleet. The Roman proconsuls, like the English High Commissioners, allowed to the conquered nations the largest measure of self-government on the one essential condition formulated by Mr. Chamberlain 'that we shall have the right to use force to compel submission to our will.' Under the Roman empire there were two sorts of colonies, senatorial and imperatorial, corresponding to the 'self-governing' colonies and the 'crown' colonies of the British system. At Rome we see the concentration of imperialism in the haughty idea of Roman citizenship according to which the whole power of the empire was placed at the service of the most miserable adventurer needing its protection; in London to-day Mr. Chamberlain discourses with eloquence on the similar claims and privileges of the British subject, that idol to which all the flags of the army and navy pay respect. The lust of wealth drew toward Rome all the gold of the universe to allow—even in the days of the republic—the parvenu Crassus to amass a capital of 85,000,000 francs, Lucullus to give dinners costing 400,000 francs, and a Roman emperor to spend 600,000 francs on roses. In England we behold the unbounded luxury of the 'upper ten thousand,' we see the Beits, the De Beers, and the Rhodeses amassing incalculable fortunes, and a minister of the crown paying insane prices for his orchids. At Rome we have Cicero displaying all his eloquence in denouncing the crime of a Verres; while at London the worthy successors of Burke fulminate against an imperialist jingoism which wounds their consciences. At Rome we hear the piercing cry: 'Varus! Varus! give me back my legions!' and in her palace of Windsor the Queen of England weeps over the havoc made in her guards by the descendants of the heroes of the Teutoburgerwald. Surely, this imperialism is a kind of possession. It enters into the heart of a nation at the moment when the last adversary that troubled it sinks under its blows, leaving, in the case of Rome, every land route open to its victorious eagles, or, as in the case of England after Trafalgar, all the seas of the globe open to the flag of its navy. As long as the last adversary continues his resistance, he will always be, whether you wish it or not, the ally of your conscience, constraining you, by the force he is able to wield, to a certain respect for justice. But, once he is reduced to submission, your love of right stands alone, unsupported; it must depend on itself. If then, at that psychological moment, the national conscience betrays itself, it is at once in danger of plunging from the heights of a lofty idealism into the depths of a vulgar cynicism. It is the history of Tyre over again, the Tyre that God apostrophized by the voice of Ezekiel: 'Thou hast gotten thee riches, and hast gotten gold and silver into thy treasures; and because thou hast set thine heart as the heart of God, behold therefore I will bring strangers upon thee, the terrible of the nations; and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of thy wisdom, and they shall defile thy brightness.'"—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE ALLIES AND CHINA.

SO many conflicting reports are published regarding the Chinese imbroglio that it is often difficult to tell what is authentic. It is evident only that while each power is anxious to secure the greatest possible advantage, there is also no small amount of readiness among diplomats to show each other the greatest consideration. Meanwhile the newspapers express very decided views. Many independent publications, like the *Nieuws van den Dag* (Amsterdam) fear that the Chinese are making use of the present lull in military operations to develop schemes for sowing dissension among the allies. The papers before us show that public opinion even in Europe is not unanimous as regards the question whether military or diplomatic pressure should be exercised upon the Chinese authorities. The London *Times* says:

THE DEPARTURE.

Since the Commander-in-Chief travels in great style, French soldiers may be compelled to handle Moltke's bust for him.

—*Le Figaro, Paris.*

"The evacuation of Peking in order that the Empress and her clique of bloodthirsty reactionaries with their puppet Emperor might return to their palace unmolested by the presence of 'foreign devils' in the capital would, of course, convince the masses of the Chinese people that the barbarians had fled awe-stricken before the face of the Son of Heaven."

The Standard says:

"It is obvious that months may easily be spent disputing where and in what conditions the Chinese commission is to treat before coming to the matter of the treaty. It will be the duty of the representatives to cut short dilatory motion of this description. They are bound by every consideration of interest and dignity not to allow the powers to be entrapped into allowing the Dowager-Empress, the princes, and the high officials to get off with impunity."

The same paper points out that Russia herself has made as yet

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no move to withdraw her troops from Peking. The London *Economist* puts the matter in this way:

Russia is playing a deep game. She wants to obtain the friendship of China. She disclaims all intention to annex Manchuria; but Manchuria is already practically in her possession, and she need only leave her troops and officials there to keep order and defend her railroads. To do this, Manchuria will for the present remain occupied by Russian troops. Russia, in fact, is willing to make peace if she is allowed to get all she wants.

CHORUS OF NEGLECTED PARLIAMENTARIANS: "See how those girls treat that soldier! We are not in it. Just wait, you vixens, till the time comes for a tip." —*Kladderadatsch.*

But we shall be much surprised if England, Germany, Italy, and Austria agree to this.

The Manchester *Guardian*, one of the few remaining representatives among the dailies of old-time British Liberalism, sees no reason why Russia should not get what she has worked for. Neither does the London *Morning Leader*. *The Guardian* says:

"It is complained bitterly that, whatever happens now, Russia's part in the affair will enable her to pose in the future as China's friend. It will. It might even be said that in so far as she has deprecated extreme proposals for pulling the existing Chinese polity to pieces she has actually been China's friend. But why should we not have been able to pose as China's friends too? Why should we not, in the same sense as Russia, have actually befriended her? To be particularly feared and disliked by the Chinese is not a calamity which it would be worth while to avert by stooping to any weak or unworthy course. But, on the other hand, it is not a piece of political wisdom to incur it without any substantial reason either of interest or honor."

The London *Daily Telegraph* thinks that the slight differences between Russia and Germany will enable the Empress-Dowager to escape an inquiry into her personal guilt. But that, in the judgment of *The Telegraph*, is not to be deplored. It is worthy of note that the Russian press does not treat Germany's refusal to evacuate Peking as inimical to Russian interests. The *Novosti* (St. Petersburg) says:

"Germany's policy appears perfectly suited to her interests, as the German ambassador was murdered, and this crime has not yet been avenged. But England is not in the same position, and when English papers declare that the British troops must remain in Peking to guard British interests, it is not easy to see where the necessity lies. England leaves her troops in the Chinese capital merely because Germany does; British diplomacy is too suspicious to leave to Germany an apparent advantage. Italy and Austria-Hungary hardly count, as they play secondary parts. Nevertheless, the Triple Alliance in this case does not act in unison with Russia, which is to be pitied all the more as Russia, Germany, and France acted with such solidarity in 1895."

The *Novoye Vremya* cares little for the cause of Germany's attitude, but busies itself with the question: Will Germany exact reparation likely to hurt Russian interests? It says, in the main:

"There may be differences of opinion as to the manner in which the Chinese question is to be solved; but all agree that the unity of the powers must be preserved. That is the Russian maxim. It is not difficult to follow if the interests of the powers do not conflict too greatly. At first it seemed as if Germany aimed at an exceptional position; but now an article in the *Kölnische Zeitung*, which is regarded as inspired, sets forth that Germany will exact only economical advantages. This need not interfere with Russia's plans."

The *Journal des Débats* thinks it will not matter if the peace is dictated from Tien-Tsin rather than from Peking. It is, however, quite clear that the appointment of a German commander-in-chief, however nominal his authority, is extremely distasteful to the French, and that they would be glad of any excuse to prevent its execution. "Waldersee won a victory for his country before he left, unfortunately not over the Chinese," complains the *Matin*. The *Autorité* makes Russia responsible.

The Germans are very much dissatisfied with the turn affairs have taken. Official and semi-official papers like the Berlin *Post* and the *Kölnische Zeitung* endeavor to limit the discussion to the practical advantages or disadvantages of a withdrawal from Peking. But the great majority declare that Germany has been placed in a disagreeable position by the appointment of Graf Waldersee, and the Emperor is held responsible. Loyalists like the Conservative-Agrarian *Deutsche Tages-Zeitung* handle the matter gingerly. The latter paper says:

"Our difficulties arise from the fact that by sending Waldersee to China we have exposed ourselves unnecessarily, much more than the interests of Germany warrant. Moreover, the manner in which the Waldersee incident has been glorified has unnecessarily aroused the suspicions of Russia. The Russian proposals amount to practically a canceling of Graf Waldersee's appointment. This can not but arouse the pure delight of *Schadenfreude* among our dear friends and neighbors."

The same paper warns, however, against any attempt to come to terms with Great Britain. "Rather isolation than a perfidious friend," it says. The *Nation* (Berlin), which has no scruples on the score of affection for the dynasty, handles the subject without gloves. In the course of a long article it says:

No mistakes remain unpunished in international politics. Germany's ambassador was killed, while the attempt to kill the others failed. But that did not give Germany a dominant position. The less Germany pushed herself forward, the more she could hope that her actually great power would assist her to obtain advantages, and the Secretary of State certainly seemed on the right road. Then came the Waldersee incident. The chief command could not have been refused, tho it is an extra load. But it is now evident that Germany forced Graf Waldersee upon the powers. The entire German press immediately saw that this was a mistake. For a mere effect we have endangered real interests. It is a good sign that the German press recognize the mistake. At any rate, the chief command is to Germany at present irksome. Let us reckon that we have an officer of high rank in China whose ability will be chiefly to the advantage of our own troops. Let us soberly say: Gentlemen of the international diplomacy, Germany has no greater interest in the unity produced by a chief command than you have. If this interest is gone from you, Germany happens to have sent out a commander of high rank to suit her own purposes.

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The same paper thinks that Russia, whose interests are predominant in China, is fully entitled to lead. In Japan the opinion seems to prevail that at least no further military operations are necessary. The *Yorodzu Choho* (Tokyo) says:

"The chief object of the allied forces was to rescue the foreign ministers and others in Peking. It has now been satisfactorily accomplished. Now they should turn their chief attention to their second object, namely, the restoration of peace and order in the disturbed part of China. This they should do, assisting Prince Ching, Li Hung Chang, or any other responsible bodies. As for opening negotiations with the Chinese Government for demanding compensation for the damages the powers sustained, surely they need not the presence of the Empress-Dowager or the Emperor or Prince Tuan. A representative of theirs will suit the purpose. The flight itself is already a deep humiliation to the Empress-Dowager, and the ignoble failure of their undertaking is a sufficient punishment to Prince Tuan and his followers, who will no doubt be afterward disgraced for their blunder. It is not wise to seek to humiliate and punish them further at the risk of big sacrifices and grave danger."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

COMING BRITISH ELECTIONS.

THE British Government, in deciding to appeal to the country at once, appears to have chosen well for the party in power. The war enthusiasm has not yet passed off, the Liberals are completely disorganized, and the voters can be asked, as *The Westminster Gazette* puts it, in a cartoon in which Mr. Chamberlain appeared as bill-poster, to "vote for khaki!" On the other hand, there is increasing restlessness, if not in opposition to imperialism *per se*, at least on account of the corruption and incompetence which it is alleged the war has shown to exist in several departments, and which the opposition would like to fasten entirely upon the party in power. The Conservatives endeavor to arouse the suspicion that the Liberals would throw away the advantages so dearly bought in South Africa. *The St. James's Gazette* (London) says:

"We say nothing with regard to the Irish Nationalists, who are still, we presume, supposed to be in formal alliance with the Liberals. But dealing only with the regular opposition, it is quite clear that nothing could be further from the truth than to represent the party as being as much in favor of the annexation as the Unionists. They are nothing of the sort. A large group is in favor of another Majuba surrender. . . . The true 'khaki issue' is therefore a perfectly legitimate one for the coming election; for if the opposition were by any chance installed in office, there would be the gravest danger that the objects for which our troops have been fighting would be deliberately thrown away, and that their labors and sacrifices would consequently be rendered nugatory."

THE BOILING POINT.

"Dissolution, toil, and trouble:
Fire, burn; and, cauldron, bubble."
"*Macbeth*" (revised).

"—— In regard to the question of popularity, it is submitted that, even if the present enthusiasm should cool down somewhat in the interim, it will inevitably reach boiling point again when the troops begin to return from the front."—*The Times* on the Prospects of a Dissolution, May 29, 1900.
—*Westminster Gazette.*

The Liberals strongly deny this. *The Westminster Gazette* says:

"If the Liberal leaders said, 'Return us to power and we will restore their independence to the two Boer republics,' the country would have to vote on that one question. As it is, however, everybody knows that if a Liberal Government came into office to-morrow, there would be no attempt to set aside the proclamations declaring the old Orange Free State and the Transvaal to be part of the Queen's dominions. As Mr. John Morley has explained, one of the strongest objections to war as a solution of the quarrel between Great Britain and the Boers was that war meant and could only mean annexation."

The same paper objects very strongly to the assertion that nothing must be inquired into before the war is over. Moreover, the Liberals accuse Lord Salisbury of trickery in choosing the month of October. It must be remembered that until the new registers of voters are made up, many voters will be disqualified. *The Scotsman* (Edinburgh) admits that this is to the advantage to the party at present in power; "but," it asks, "why the Government should not have some regard to their own party interests in fixing the date of a general election, the Radicals who are shrieking about a 'khaki' election do not condescend to say." *The Speaker* (London) says:

"Surely it must be clear to any one who thinks the matter over calmly that an October election on a dead register means that the country will be put to the expense of a general election to no useful purpose whatever. There would be no real connection between Parliament and the country, between the governors and the governed. Ministers of whatever color would inspire no confidence. Their policy would be weak, their majority honeycombed. There could be no settlement worthy of the name in South Africa or China, or in that despised and neglected region still recognized by the absurd title of 'Great' Britain."

But *The Spectator*, a stanch government supporter, believes that the country still trusts Lord Salisbury to the fullest extent. All that is asked is that he should define his policy, especially in the matter of China:

"To drift is to court disaster. We shall be told, of course, that this demand for a definite policy is conventional, and the utterance of such a truism entirely unhelpful. Further, it will be suggested that we must not suppose that because the public does not know it, therefore the Government has not a perfectly clear and well-defined policy in regard to China. Again, we shall be told that because we generally have confidence in the Government we ought to assume that they know exactly what they want to do, and mean to do, in China. We most sincerely hope that this is so. But even granted that it is, we go further and say that the time has come when the Government, through the Prime Minister, should let the country understand the main lines of its policy."

Some Liberal-Unionists are against the continuance of the present cabinet, on the ground that it does not pay enough attention to home affairs. *Lloyd's Weekly*, an important "popular" paper, says:

"There is neither thought nor word as to home affairs, and the many matters relating to the well-being of our own people that will surely demand attention within the next few years. . . . Lord Salisbury is neither sufficiently strong nor determined enough to hold in check the younger members of his cabinet; and the repetition of an overwhelming parliamentary majority will tend to increase Mr. Balfour's defiant manner and the irresponsible attitude of some of his chief followers. . . . Whenever Lord Salisbury launches his appeal to the constituencies, we trust Lord Rosebery will be near at hand to give truer voice to the wishes and needs of Liberalism than those halting and timid spokesmen who have as yet been heard. It is not a time for sitting still, but for resolute and vigorous action."

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There will doubtless be some important changes in the cabinet, even if the Conservatives remain in power. Lord Halsbury, for one, will not remain Lord Chancellor, as he is very old and only accepted office the last time to please his friend Lord Salisbury. There is some talk even of the Premier's resignation after the election, and some speculation as to his successor. The Toronto *Globe* says on this point:

"Not that there is any lack of material, for both Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain possess the experience needed. But which of them would it be? The staid Conservatives would be inclined to pin their faith to Mr. Balfour. In their eyes Mr. Chamberlain is an enterprising and dashing lieutenant, but hardly possesses the characteristics or traditions that they require in the chief of their historic party. Mr. Balfour does, and his record in the popular chamber shows him to be a skilful Parliamentarian."

The Conservatives try to discredit the opposition by publishing some letters written by opposition leaders to President Kruger and other Transvaal officials before the war. On the other hand, Mr. Chamberlain is invited by the opposition to publish the "Hawkesley Correspondence." On the whole, the result of the election appears to most observers a foregone conclusion: the present Government will be returned with a large majority. That is also the opinion of continental journals. Continental opinion is well represented in the following excerpt from the *Nieuws van den Dag* (Amsterdam):

"Lord Roberts has sent four horses to Cape Town. General Baden-Powell will also return to Cape Town. Some of the Yeomanry will be paid off. All this to make the British public believe that the war is over. In reality these are only election maneuvers. The public will not notice that fresh troops are sent out continually and that those who return are used up. Lord Roberts is necessary at home to help carry through the election for Mr. Chamberlain, and the 'khaki' plan will be a success, most likely. The people will forget the heavy expenditure in blood and treasure which Mr. Chamberlain has caused them, and the government majority will be greater than ever."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

VATICAN AND QUIRINAL.

THE hope that church and state would make their peace in Italy has been shattered. The Vatican has serious complaints, which the *Temps* (Paris) enumerates, in the main, as follows:

The Vatican has in preparation a note [see LITERARY DIGEST, September 22] renewing the former protests against the Italian occupation of Rome; the sovereignty of the Pope is claimed as strongly as ever, and the King of Italy is regarded as a usurper. The powers are reminded of the fact that the Vatican has never ceased to claim the papal state, and that, in 1895, Leo XIII. protested very strongly against the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the so-called liberation of Rome from the papal yoke. Moreover, the Holy Father is deeply grieved to find that nothing is done effectually to check the Protestant propaganda in Italy and in Rome itself.

The *National Zeitung* (Berlin) remarks that such protests will simply be filed without any notice being taken of them. "As to the Protestant propaganda," says that paper, "it is very curious that, when Protestant Germany, England, and North America, non-sectarian France, orthodox Russia, and even heathen Japan are protecting Catholic missions in China, the Pope should complain that he is powerless to interfere with what religious freedom there is in Italy." In still stronger language the *Frankfurter Zeitung* expresses itself:

"The Pope describes the harm done by the 'sects' in the strongest possible colors. 'Into the Lord's own vineyard they have entered,' he says, 'and as they can not claim truth as their strength, they attack the Catholic faith through its tenderest plants.' The faithful should be warned that 'under the harmless guise of boys' and girls' schools, of schools of languages, of other educational institutes, of assistance given to needy families, the most wicked heresy is smuggled in.' The Pope complains that all this is 'actually done under the protection of the law.' This complaint need not be wondered at. For, of course, if the Pope made the laws, the Protestant propaganda would simply be prohibited and the propagators punished. History teaches the Pope's system. That he hates and reviles Protestantism is nothing new, but it does not seem very diplomatic to do so at a time when Catholics, Protestants, and heathens are fighting together for a cause which is dear to the Pope."

It would seem that the Vatican has made no effort to take advantage of any opportunity which King Humbert's assassination offered to compose its differences with the Quirinal and increase its influence with the Government. Queen Margherita composed a prayer for the repose of her murdered husband, and the Bishop of Cremona approved it. The Vatican, however, prohibited it. Roman ladies wished to organize a woman's demonstration against this decision, but the Queen widow bowed to the decision. The affair seems to have made much bad blood. The Roman correspondent of the strictly Catholic *Germania* (Berlin) writes in the main as follows:

The bishop should not have given his approval so soon. Yet the prayer will be an effective weapon against the Vatican among the Italian people. The form in which the prohibition was published in the *Osservatore Romano* has offended, and not only among the opponents of the Vatican. Ladies should be treated with politeness, even by church dignitaries. I would like to hold the editor of the *Osservatore* responsible, but a Turin paper has shown to the whole world that the prohibition was worded in the Vatican. It was not necessary to disturb the Catholic world by it.

As Queen Margherita is very popular, the affair has made a stir even in political circles. The *Journal des Débats* (Paris), in the course of a long article, expresses itself to the following effect:

The Times correspondent at Rome, who, so we are told by his paper, "is thoroughly well informed and rarely mistaken in his interpretation of facts," has discovered the source of the whole trouble. France has inspired the Vatican, and *The Times* gleefully devotes more than two columns to it. If we did not have full confidence in the common sense of the Italians, this would anger and disquiet us. It is well known that this supposed meddling of France with Italian affairs is continually exploited by our enemies. Last year the *Tribuna* started a systematic campaign to show that our Government intervened to procure the Pope's representation at The Hague Peace Conference, in opposition to the Italian Government. In Austria it is asserted that we intrigue for the restoration of the Pope's temporal power, which is all the more remarkable as the Hapsburg monarchy is the most persistent ally of Rome, Francis Joseph having humiliated King Humbert on that account. In reality we are strictly neutral.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A Repentant Anarchist.—Generally those persons who have become imbued with Anarchist ideas are only too ready to carry out the "sentences" against high officials or crowned heads. Yet there are exceptions, as the following communication, which the *Neue Züricher Zeitung* receives from Milan, shows:

"From the royal palace at Monza, the world is now informed that the place was once before designated to become the scene of an attack upon King Humbert; but the design was not put into execution, for the man who had been chosen to kill the king felt at the last moment the qualms of conscience. The facts of the case, according to the *Corriere della Sera*, are the following:

"July 9, 1886, a sergeant of the Eighty-eighth Regiment shot himself while on guard in the palace. Near his body was found a letter addressed to the king. 'I have been commissioned to kill Your Majesty,' he wrote, 'but I think your life more valuable than my own, therefore I prefer to kill myself. Before I die, I recommend my poor mother to Your Majesty's favor. Francesco de Franceschi.' Researches of the state attorney and the colonel of the Eighty-eighth showed the Franceschi had attended a secret meeting in Milan, at which he was told to kill the king on the first opportunity. He was an able non-commissioned officer, and his death gave rise to much speculation. The real facts, however, have not been published until now, when, fourteen years after, the king has met his tragic fate on the same spot."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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FOREIGN POSSIBILITIES OF AMERICAN COMMERCE.

Consul Smithers, of Chungking, on May 7, 1900, sends a clipping from *The North China Daily News* giving an account of the launching of the first merchant steamer to run between Ichang and that port. The *Pioneer* is expected at Chungking in June, 1900. The clipping reads:

"The *Pioneer* is a steel paddle steamer, built by William Denny & Bros., of Dumbarton, sent out in pieces and put together here at the Oriental Dock. Her length between perpendiculars is 180 feet; breadth molded, 30 feet; and depth molded, 10 feet. She is to have accommodation for fourteen first-class, thirty second-class, and ninety third-class passengers. She will be propelled by two sets of diagonal, compound, direct-acting, surface-condensing paddle-engines, with boilers working at 125 pounds. The paddle-wheels have feathering floats, and each pair of engines is completely separate and independent of the other. Each set of engines has two compound cylinders of 18½ and 32 inches, with a stroke of 5 feet."

Consul McGinley writes from Athens, June 16, 1900:

Owing to the tariff troubles between Turkey and Greece, the Greek importers of timber are considering the question of importing from some other country the large quantities of timber, lumber, staves, etc., which they have heretofore annually brought from Turkey, and I think it well to inform American exporters of this fact, that they may have a chance to make a bid for the custom of the Greek market. As Greece does not produce any timber for manufacturing purposes, and very little for any use, she is obliged to import nearly all she consumes. In 1898, the latest year for which Greek import statistics have been published, Greece imported woods for building and manufacturing purposes valued at 7,709,746 francs ($1,511,710.98) from Austria, Turkey, Germany, Rumania, Russia, Italy, France, United States, Belgium, and England, these countries furnishing portions of the whole in the order named. Austria and Turkey produced the largest part of all the woods imported, while the United States furnished a few thousand staves for currant barrels.

The demand for woods of all kinds is rapidly increasing in Greece, and the local prices are very high. The great distance will make the freight on timber from the United States much higher than from any other of the countries named; but with a direct line or lines of steamships connecting Greek and American ports, there would be a good chance to open up the Greek market for our native timbers—a market in which the demand for good qualities will annually increase.

Minister Bryan writes from Petropolis, June 11, 1900, that he has protested against the Brazilian law enacted last November, forbidding the importation of manufactures that carry labels, prescriptions, or trade-marks in Portuguese or partly in that language, which law would cause serious loss to importers of United States proprietary medicines. The 1st of July was named as the date for putting the law into effect, but Mr. Bryan has obtained a postponement until October 1, and hopes that Congress will repeal the law. Mr. Bryan urges that labels are a part of trade-marks, and that consequently the law is in violation of the convention of 1878 between the United States and Brazil. He advises all American importers to conform to the requirements of that agreement, by registering their marks in Brazil.

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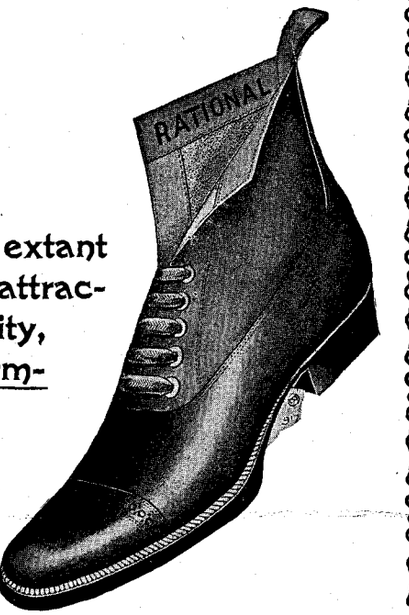

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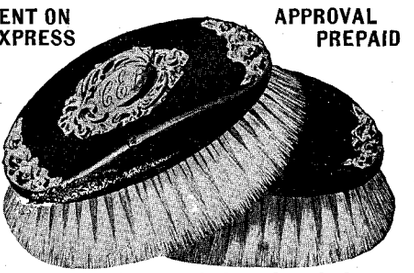

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PERSONALS.

Sardou Made by His Marriage.—No dramatist ever had a harder start than M. Victorien Sardou. His parents wished him to take up a medical career, and he began his studies with some zeal. The love of the drama, however, was far greater than the love of the pill-box, and in the interval of his other work Sardou was busy upon a play. Life was a struggle for him, for he had but little money, tho he managed to get some journalistic work to supplement his more slender income. At last he finished his first play. It was a dead failure, and Sardou rushed from the theater vowing never to enter one again. The disappointment preyed to such an extent upon his nerves that he fell seriously ill. On the floor below where he lived an actress, named Mlle. de Brecourt, was staying; she heard of the unhappy young man's illness, took compassion upon him, nursed him back to health, and afterward married him. The marriage was the making of Sardou.—*London King.*

Von Waldersee and the Emperor.—Count von Waldersee, who is in command of the allied troops in China, is the only man who has ever been known to disobey the German Emperor. It happened in this wise. During the maneuvers of 1895 the Kaiser had proposed to the war council of the day that the enemy's army should be met the next morning with a front attack. This suggestion was energetically opposed by Waldersee, and his objection won the day, his own plan of a flank attack being accepted by the majority of the council. Hereupon the Kaiser refused to undertake any responsibility for the next day's action, and contented himself with acting as umpire.

The next morning the Emperor appeared earlier than usual on the field, but Count Waldersee was before him, having arisen and aroused his men at two in the morning and kept them at a long forced march without halting, being certain that if his troops could stand the strain, his plan of attack would succeed. Meanwhile the Kaiser waited and waited, but there was no sign of Count Waldersee. His Majesty sent an adjutant to summon the General to come. Count Waldersee returned answer that he could not come. The Kaiser then sent a high staff officer with the same command; but he returned with the same answer. The equerry-in-chief, Count Wedel, was despatched in quest of the recalcitrant general; but the latter remained obdurate despite all remonstrances. Finally General von Hahnke was asked to summon Count Waldersee to the Kaiser; his attempt to induce him to come proved likewise fruitless.

Shortly after General von Hahnke had left Count Waldersee, the latter's troops could be seen appearing in the distance. Then the Count galloped off to the Emperor. His Majesty received him with a frown. "You have kept your Emperor waiting a long while," he said. Count Waldersee answered very formally that he had issued instructions to his troops the night before telling them that he personally should remain the whole day at a certain spot, ready to receive and send out messages; that if he had moved from his post he might have spoiled the whole maneuvers. The Emperor thanked him and drove off, and no one was able to have word with him for the rest of the day.—Berlin Correspondence *London Express.*

A Modjeska Anecdote.—Many interesting stories have been related anent Mme. Modjeska, the renowned actress. The following in *Answers* is characteristic: "On one occasion when she was visiting at a friend's house the conversation turned to the subject of her native Poland, and she spoke enthusiastically of its musical language and its beautiful and pathetic ballad poetry. The

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other guests finally asked her to recite a specimen of Polish verse, and she consented. Twice she began, but each time, her memory failing her, she broke down. At the third attempt, however, she found something in which she was quite at home, and poured forth a flow of impassioned tho unintelligible eloquence. Her voice rose and fell, her gestures were now of pathos, now of exaltation, now of quiet humor. Her various moods were translated to her audience with such power and vividness that it was swayed alternately to smiles and to tears. The recitation ended amid a storm of applause. When the cheers subsided some one asked her what was the name of the piece she had recited. Modjeska laughed heartily. 'I am sorry to have deceived you,' she said. 'The fact is, my memory played me a trick. I could not remember a single one of the ballads I once used to know so well, and as I had to give you some sort of a recitation I recited, as a last resort, the numbers from 1 to 250 in Polish.' "—*Evening Wisconsin.*

MORE OR LESS PUNGENT.

The Situation.—JUDGE: "Prisoner, do you desire to say anything in your defense?"

PRISONER: "Well, your honor, it was this way. The governor said it was time to take stock, and I took all I could. Then he went back on me and had me arrested for stealing."—*The Public.*

Golf.—"I tell you, golf is going to be the salvation of the nation. It is going to make athletic men and women out of our puny offsprings, and lengthen our days by decades." "But our ancestors didn't go in for golf." "And where are they now? Dead! All dead!"—*Boston Journal.*

Silence is Golden.—"Of course, Susan, if you intend to get married, that is your own business," said the mistress to the cook, "but you mustn't forget that marriage is a very serious matter." "Yes, ma'am, I know it is sometimes," remarked the domestic, "but maybe I'll have better luck than you did."—*Tit-Bits.*

Fair Treatment?—In the very vortex of the bargain rush a man was struggling. "Mercy!" he shrieked. But the women bore him down and trampled him under foot. "The nerve of him," sneered they, one to another, "to wear a shirt waist and then ask special consideration by reason of his sex!"—*Detroit Journal.*

In Perfect Accord.—"I suppose," remarked the relative who was on a visit, "that you and Henrietta agree perfectly." "Oh, yes," answered Mr. Meekton, after a moment's hesitation, "on some points. It was only this morning that I said the weather was extremely hot, and Henrietta said she thought so, too."—*Washington Star.*

Much Gratified.—HE: "While I was out sailing this summer I fell overboard into a very stormy sea."

SHE: "My gracious! But they rescued you, didn't they?"

HE: "Oh, yes! they pulled me out, of course."

SHE: "Oh my! I am so glad to hear you weren't drowned."—*Philadelphia Record.*

LADY (engaging new housemaid): "Daphne? That is much too romantic a name, with young men in the house. I suppose you would not object to be called by your surname?"

APPLICANT: "Oh, no, ma'am; in fact, I'm quite used to it."

LADY: "What is your surname?"

APPLICANT: "Darling."—*Glasgow Evening Times.*

Advertising.—Near Hamlin, Kans., the religious sect known as the "Holiness People" have painted

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furnish the very best protection for the sleeping child that has yet been devised. They are made from the famous "Arnold" Knit Fabric, which is superior to canton flannel or muslin for the following reasons:

It is soft in texture and elastic. It never grows harsh or stiff from washing. It is open and porous. It is easily washed—it does not shrink. It causes no rash on delicate skins.

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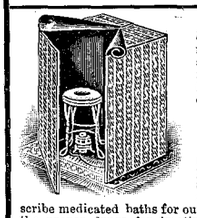

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Scripture texts on barns and other buildings. On a bridge north of Hamlin they painted the following: "Heaven or hell—which do you choose?" Then a sign writer came along and finished out the line with this inscription: "See Yost, Hiawatha, for your coffins and caskets."—*New York Tribune.*

Her Startling Remark.—"I wish I were yon star," he said dreamily. "So do I," she returned promptly, heroically swallowing a yawn. "And why, dear one?" he asked impulsively. "Why do you wish I were yon brilliant orb?" "Because," she replied, in cold, matter-of-fact tones, "because yon brilliant orb is just 11,760,971 miles away."

And he faded silently out like a mist before a summer sun.—*London Answers.*

A Rough Country.—In the course of the terrible march of the Irish Fusiliers from Dundee to Ladysmith the men were much fatigued, owing to the rough journey. One man in particular stumbled along as if walking in his sleep. An officer passed.

"Sir," said Michael, "what country is this we're marching over?" "The Natal tableland, my man," was the reply. "Bedad, sir," said Michael. "I think the table's turned upside down, and we're walking over the legs of it!"—*Exchange.*

From Babyhood to Boyhood.—

I saw a sweet young mother stand
Where snow had drifted o'er the land.
A babe was lying on her breast.
Its fragile form
Against herself she fondly pressed
To keep it warm.

In later years I passed once more
And saw her at the cottage door;
A boy was lying on her knee,
Her look was grim,
And, suffering Joshua! how she
Was warming him!

—*Chicago Times-Herald.*

Current Events.

Foreign.

CHINA.

September 24.—The Russians have captured Lu-Tai, a Chinese stronghold north of Taku.

The reply of France to Germany concerning China is in line with the proposals of the United States, showing willingness to open negotiations with China, prior to the punishment of guilty mandarins.

September 25.—It is reported that Li Hung Chang has reached Peking, and has opened negotiations for the emperor's return.

Prince Henry of Prussia is commander-in-chief of the first German squadron in China.

The War Department sends orders to General Chaffee, directing him to withdraw his troops, with the exception of a guard for the American Legation in Peking, from China to Manila.

September 26.—A despatch from Hongkong reports that piracy on the West River is increasing.

A special cablegram from Shanghai says the Boxer leaders are practically masters of the situation, which is described as critical as ever.

Reports state that Italy and Austria are the only powers which have replied favorably and unconditionally to Germany's note. The replies of France and Russia advocate the punishment of the originators of the anti-foreign assaults, but do not make their surrender an absolute condition of the peace preliminaries. Japan takes a middle course, leaning toward Germany, while Great Britain declines.

September 27.—American mission property in two southern provinces of China, Quang Le and Quang-Lu, has been destroyed by mobs.

The Austrian admiralty has received a de-

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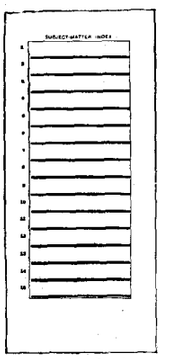

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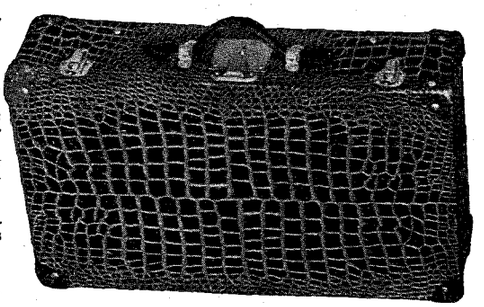

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spatch from Taku giving the strength of the forces landed there by the powers as follows: Austrian, 494; German, 8,178; British, 8,353; American, 5,608; French, 6,575; Italian, 2,541; Russian, 20,934; Japanese, 15,570.

A report states that the Russians have abandoned the province of Chih-li to Germany.

September 28.—The Russian General Rennenkampt captures the Manchurian city of Kirin.

September 29.—Count von Waldersee arrives at Tien-Tsin, and is received by a guard of honor.

A French battalion from Peking has occupied the towns of Lon-Kou-Chiao and Chan-Sin-Tien.

Reports from Consul-General Goodnow show that the Emperor and Empress have issued a decree degrading Tuan and four other princes; Tuan is deprived of his salary and servants and awaits trial by the imperial clan court.

September 30.—The Russian minister at Peking announces the withdrawal of the Russian legation and troops from Peking to Tien-Tsin.

The American troops have received orders to leave, and are preparing to go to Manila.

The Russians have invested Moukden, in North China.

SOUTH AFRICA.

September 24.—Lord Roberts announces the occupation of Komatipoort by the British.

September 25.—Many damaged Boer guns have been found by the British along the Crocodile River.

September 26.—Three of the members of the Transvaal cabinet sailed for Lourenço Marques for Holland.

September 28.—The British Government is said to have sent a note to the Holland Government warning it that if President Kruger carries gold or state archives on a Dutch war-ship the act will be regarded as a breach of neutrality.

The Boers attacked Paget's force at Prenaar's River, but were repulsed after a severe fight.

Heilbron, Reitz, and Lindley have been reoccupied.

September 29.—The British troops at Komatipoort paraded in honor of the birthday of the King of Portugal and saluted the Portuguese flag.

September 30.—It is officialiy announced that Lord Roberts has been appointed commander-in-chief of the British army, succeeding Lord Wolseley; the Canadian contingent in South Africa under Colonel Pelletier sailed for home.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

September 24.—There is renewed activity reported among the rebels of Colombia.

A report from Norway says that Dr. Nansen and the Duke of Abruzzi have agreed to undertake a joint expedition into North Polar regions.

September 25.—More deaths due to plague are reported at Glasgow.

The price of cotton in India has risen, and many spinning-mills have been closed.

September 26.—Fiji Islanders are making an attempt to secure federation with New Zealand.

The secretary of the Chilian Government to the United States denies that war is imminent between his country and its neighbors.

The performances of the Passion Play which

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began at Ober-Ammergau May 24, will end October 1.

September 27.—Advises from Colon state that the rebels have advanced within 14 miles of Panama.

September 21.—*Philippines:* General MacArthur cables that fifty-two men of the Twenty-Ninth Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Shields, have been captured by the insurgents.

The Japanese cabinet has resigned, and Marquis Ito will probably succeed to the premiership.

September 29.—Two more deaths occur from the plague in Glasgow.

September 30.—*Philippines:* Insurgents in Luzon are said to have lost ninety men in skirmishes during the week.

The Mikado has summoned Marquis Ito to form a cabinet, on the resignation of the Yamagato ministry in Japan.

Statistics show that 544,283 children below 14 years of age are engaged in industrial pursuits in Germany.

Domestic.

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN:

September 26.—Walter C. Jones, mayor of Galveston, is nominated for Congress by the Republicans to succeed Congressman Hawley, who announces his retirement from politics.

September 27.—The Populist nomination for Vice-President to fill the vacancy caused by the declination of Charles A. Towne, is accepted by Adlai E. Stevenson, by letter.

OTHER DOMESTIC NEWS.

September 24.—An attempt to resume work at the mines in the anthracite district was a failure.

September 25.—Gen. John M. Palmer, ex-United States Senator from Illinois, dies in Springfield, aged 83 years.

The torpedo-boat *Bagley* is launched at Bath, Me.

September 26.—At the annual convention of the Episcopal diocese of New York, Bishop Potter in his address presented a defense of the Bible.

The Board of Education of New York City adopts its budget, asking for $19,258,378.80, an increase of more than $4,600,000 over the last appropriation.

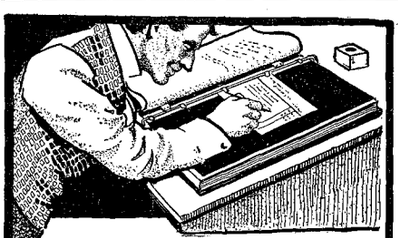
Governor Roosevelt was roughly handled by a mob while making a speech at Victor, Colo.

September 27.—The proposition of operators to grant miners a 10 per cent. wage increase is claimed by President Mitchell as a victory for the union.

September 29.—The situation in the anthracite coal region remains unchanged, both operators and strikers awaiting results.

September 30.—Sixto Lopez, Aguinaldo's agent, arrives in New York.

For CHESS see next (cover) page.



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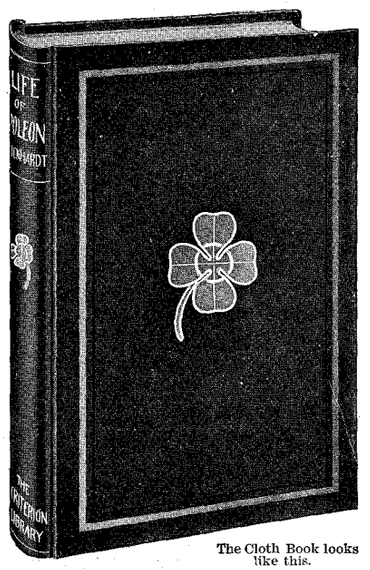

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CHESS.

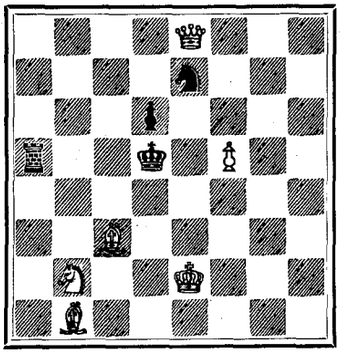
[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

Problem 506.

By DR. GALITZKI.

From *Schachmatny Journal.*

Black—Four Pieces.



White—Six Pieces.

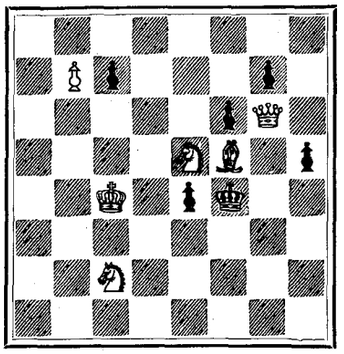
White mates in two moves.

Problem 507.

By L. N. DE JONG.

A Prize-winner.

Black—Six Pieces.



White—Six Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 501.

1. K—R 4 / Q—Q 5	2. Kt—Q 7 dis. ch / K—Q 3		3. B—K 5, mate
1. ..... / R x R	2. Kt x R ch / K—K 5 (must)		3. Kt—B 5, mate
1. ..... / R x Kt	2. Q—Q 5 ch / P x Q (must)		3. Kt—B 5, mate
1. ..... / Kt—B 2	2. Q—Q 6 ch / K x Q (must)		3. Kt—K 4, mate
1. ..... / B—B 7	2. Kt—Q 5 ch / K—K 5		3. Q x B, mate
	2. ..... / K—Q 3		3. Q—Kt 4, mate
	2. ..... / R—B 3		3. Q x P, mate
1. ..... / P—K B 6	2. Kt—R 5 ch / K—K 5		3. Kt—Kt 3, mate
	2. ..... / R—B 3		3. Q—B 4, mate
1. ..... / Any other	2. Kt—Kt 6 ch / P x Kt		3. Q—Q 5 mate

Solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; M. Marble, Worcester, Mass.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; the Rev. J. G. Law, Walhalla, S. C.; M. Bukofzer, Paterson, N. J.; the Rev. G. Dobbs, New Orleans; W. B. Miller, Calmar, Ia.; Dr. R. J. Moore, Riverton, Ala.; H. Meyer, Milwaukee; H. W. Barry, Boston.

Comments: "A lustrous gem, by an illustrious Master"—I. W. B.; "Key difficult, and otherwise good"—C. R. O.; "Very difficult and subtle; a decidedly magnificent 3-er"—M. M.; "If classed as cotton, this problem would be 'middling fair,' *i.e.*, the best"—F. S. F.; "A wonderful composition; the most extraordinary skill has been exercised in the avoidance of duals"—W. R. C.; "Key hard to find, but when found, opens a problem of marvelous beauty"—J. G. L.; "Quite easy with the exception, perhaps, of the variation 1 K—R 4 / Kt—B 2 etc."—M. B.; "Tough and tantalizing"—G. D.; "Very fine and very difficult"—W. B. M.; "Not difficult; but deserves high rating for novelty, brilliancy, ingenuity, and skilful execution."—H. W. B.

The point of this problem is that the K must move, and can go only to R 4; to avoid P x Kt ch, after Kt—Kt 6 ch. It's really funny how old solvers are often caught. One of our experts wrote: "I expected a pleasant time solving No. 501, but 1 Kt—Kt 6 ch / P x Kt 2 Q—Q 5 mate disposes of it." Hardly, when Herr Fridlizius had fixed it so that P x Kt is ch.

In addition to those reported, Dr. R. W. Parsons, Sing Sing, N. Y.; A. Hostetter, University of Illinois; H. D. Coe, Edgartown, Mass.; the Rev. C. W. Baumhoefener, Homestead, Ia., got 499; J. I. H., Tacoma, Wash., 500.

Game from the Munich Tournament.

PILLSBURY CAUGHT NAPPING.

In the following game, which cost Pillsbury the first prize, the American played unconsciously against a variation which had been prepared for him by Halprin and Maroczy. The plot prepared by the allies begins with White's 14th move, which the Chess-editor of *The Westminster Gazette* calls "a masterpiece of ingenuity."

Ruy Lopez.

HALPRIN. *White.*	PILLSBURY. *Black.*	HALPRIN. *White.*	PILLSBURY. *Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	14 P—Kt 6!	B P x P
2 Kt—K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	15 Kt—Q 5!	P x Kt
3 B—Kt 5	Kt—B 3	16 KR-Ksq ch	K—B sq
4 Castles	Kt x P	17 R—R 3	Kt—K 4
5 P—Q 4	Kt—Q 3	18 R x Kt!	P x R
6 P x P	Kt x B	19 R—B 3 ch	K—Kt sq
7 P—Q R 4	P—Q 3	20 B—R 6	Q—K 2
8 P—K 6	P x P	21 B x P	K x B
9 P x Kt	Kt—K 2	22 R-Kt 3 ch	K—B sq
10 Kt—B 3	Kt—Kt 3	23 R—B 3 ch	K—Kt 2
11 Kt—Kt 5	B—K 2	24 R-Kt 3 ch	K—B sq
12 Q—R 5	B x Kt	25 R—B 3 ch	K—Kt sq
13 B x B	Q—Q 2		Drawn.

A Plea for the Queen.

The following letter treats of an interesting subject:

ONONDAGA, September 13, 1900.

DEAR SIR: Allow me to plead for a change in the name of the principal piece on the Chess-board from Queen to Vizier, Premier, or Prime Minister, as the piece is called in the East.

1. The present appellation is an insult to our manhood. Caïssa declares that the Queen, the only feminine person on the board, is always more powerful than, and in every respect superior to, the King; a case which seldom occurs in real life, and when it does is usually not a happy experience. The Prime Minister, on the other hand, is ordinarily the most notable person in a kingdom, as at the present time, Victoria *reigns* in England, but Lord Salisbury *rules*, and directs affairs.

2. It is contrary to our feelings of gallantry that the Queen should have to fight for the King, who seldom stirs. Still worse is this the case when we *have to sacrifice her Majesty, tho it is considered* brilliant Chess to win a game by doing so. Few would mind giving up a Vizier, as Charles I. sacrificed Stafford, but was checkmated notwithstanding.

The Oriental name was doubtless the original one, and it is evidently more appropriate, and should be retained.

Yours truly,

S. R. ASBURY.

LEGAL DIRECTORY.

We append below a list of leading lawyers in different portions of the United States.

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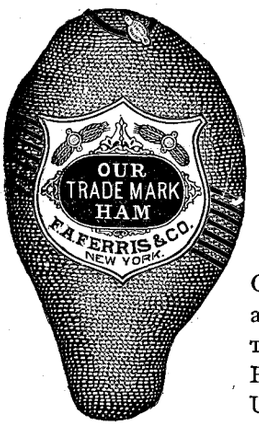

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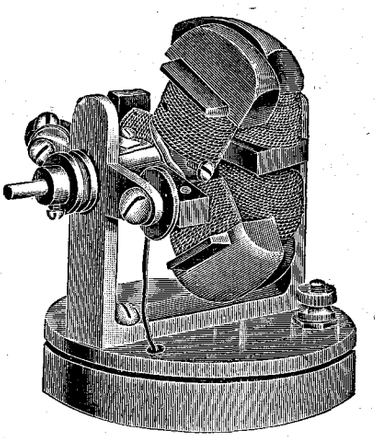

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